

# The Hongkong Telegraph.

No. 2819.

THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 1891.

SIX DOLLARS PER QUARTER

## Banks.

THE NEW ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION, LIMITED.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL £2,000,000.  
PAID-UP CAPITAL £180,000.

### LONDON:

Head Office, 40, Threadneedle Street.  
West End Office, 25, Cockspur Street.

BRANCHES IN INDIA, CHINA, JAPAN AND THE COLONIES.

THE BANK receives MONEY ON DEPOSIT, issues Letters of Credit, forwards Bills for Collection, and Transacts Banking and Agency Business generally, on terms to be had on application.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS:  
Fixed for 12 months, 5 per Cent. per Annum.  
" 6 " 4 " "  
" 3 " 3 " "  
ON CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS  
3 per Cent. per Annum on the Daily Balance.

E. W. RUTTER,  
Manager.

## Insurances.

EXAMPLES OF THE COST OF ASSURANCE TO A MAN AGED 30 NEXT BIRTHDAY.

£1,000  
STG. payable at death, would cost per quarter at the rate of—  
£ 618 0 (a) If premiums are payable for whole of life  
or £ 9 11 6 (b) If premiums are limited to 20 years  
or £ 11 4 6 (c) If premiums are limited to 15 years  
or £ 13 0 0 (d) If the Sum Assured is made payable at age 50, or at death if previous.

\* Secured payments.  
THE same provisions if commenced at age 40 n. b. would cost respectively (a) £8.15.0, (b) £11.5.0, (c) £12.4.0, (d) £17.8.0 per quarter.

ADAMSON, BELL & Co.,  
Agents.

THE TOKYO MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED, OF TOKYO.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL £1,200,000.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents are prepared to accept first class HULL RISKS AT CURRENT RATES.

GEO. R. STEVENS & Co.,  
Hongkong, 1st April, 1891.

SOUTH BRITISH FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW ZEALAND.

THE Undersigned are prepared to accept FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCES on favourable terms.

Current rates and a guaranteed Bonus equal to that paid by the local Offices.

GEORGE R. STEVENS & Co.,  
Agents.

No. 2, Queen's Road, Hongkong.

GENERAL LIFE AND FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY IN LONDON.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to ACCEPT RISKS AGAINST FIRE AND LIFE AT CURRENT RATES.

REUTER, BROCKELMANN & Co.,  
Hongkong, 1st July, 1890.

THE EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES.

RUSSELL & Co.,  
Agents.

Hongkong, 14th November, 1890.

NOTICE.

THE MAN ON INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED.

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED £1,000,000.

The above Company is prepared to accept MARINE RISKS AT CURRENT RATES, on Goods, &c. Policies granted to all Parts of the world payable at any of its Agencies.

WOO LIN YUEN,  
Secretary.

HEAD OFFICE, No. 2, Queen's Road West.

Hongkong, 1st February, 1891.

GENERAL NOTICE.

THE ON TAI INSURANCE COMPANY, (LIMITED.)

CAPITAL, TAEKS 600,000, } \$833,333-33-  
EQUAL TO }  
RESERVE FUND } \$318,000-00.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

LEE SING, Esq. | LO YAT MOON, Esq.  
LOU TSO SHUN, Esq.

MANAGER—HO AMEL.

MARINE RISKS ON GOODS, &c., taken at Current Rates to all parts of the world.

HEAD OFFICE, 8 & 9, PRAYA WEST.

Hongkong, 17th November, 1890.

THE NORTH-CHINA INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE FOURTEENTH ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the above Company will be held at the Head Office, Shanghai, on MONDAY, the 20th instant, at 2.30 p.m., for presentation of the Report of the Directors and the Accounts for the 31st December, 1890, the election of Directors and Auditors for the current year, and for the purpose of transacting any other business which may be transacted at an Ordinary General Meeting.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 8th to the 20th inst., both days inclusive.

By Order of the Court of Directors,  
ALEX. ROSS,  
Secretary.

Shanghai, 1st April, 1891.

## Masonic.

VICTORIA CHAPTER, No. 525.

THE FIRST REGULAR CONVOCATION of the District Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Hongkong and South China will be held in MASONIC HALL, TO-MORROW, the 17th inst., at 8.30 for 9 p.m. precisely.

All Royal Arch Masons, Members of Victoria Chapter, are also cordially invited to attend.

Hongkong, 14th April, 1891.

VICTORIA PRECEPTORY.

AN EMERGENCY MEETING of the Victoria Preceptory will be held on MONDAY, the 20th instant, at 5 for 5.30 p.m. precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited to attend.

Hongkong, 13th April, 1891.

## Consignees.

NORDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

S.S. "PREUSSEN," FROM BREMEN AND PORTS OF CALL.

THE above named steamer having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods, with the exception of Opium, Treasure and Valuables, are being landed and stored at their risk in the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, Kowloon, whence delivery may be obtained.

Optional cargo will go on to Shanghai, unless notice to the contrary be given before 4 p.m. this afternoon, the 15th inst.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining after the 23rd inst. will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed, and damaged goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on Thursday, the 23rd inst., at 4 p.m. All Claims must reach us before the 23rd inst., or they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by MELCHERS & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 15th April, 1891.

AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN LLOYD'S STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM TRIESTE, PORT SAID, SUEZ, JEDDAH, SUAKIM, MASSAWAH, HOODEDA, ADEN, BOMBAY, COLOMBO, PENANG, AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship "MARIA TERESA" having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods, with the exception of opium are being landed at their risk into the Godowns known as The Hongkong Wharf and Godowns, Wanchai, whence delivery may be obtained.

Consignees wishing to receive their Goods on the Wharf are at liberty to do so.

This vessel brings on Cargo—  
From Trieste, ex S.S. "IMPERATOR," transhipped at Bombay.

From Calcutta, ex S.S. "SELENE," transhipped at Colombo.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all claims must be sent in to the Undersigned before NOON on the 21st inst., or they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance has been effected, and any Goods remaining in the Godowns after the 21st inst. will be subject to rent.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 14th April, 1891.

"MOGUL" LINE OF STEAMERS.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

STEAMSHIP "ALBANY," FROM GLASGOW, LIVERPOOL, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby informed that all goods are being landed at their risk, into the Godowns of the Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, at Kowloon, whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless notice to the contrary be given before NOON, TO-DAY.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 20th inst. will be subject to rent.

All claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Undersigned on or before the 20th inst., or they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by ADAMSON, BELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 13th April, 1891.

"SHIRE" LINE OF STEAMERS.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

S.S. "FLINTSHIRE," FROM HAMBURG, ANTWERP, LONDON, AND STRAITS.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, at Kowloon, whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained.

Optional cargo will be forwarded unless notice to the contrary be given before noon, TO-MORROW.

No claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 21st instant, will be subject to rent.

All claims against the steamer must be presented to the Undersigned on or before the 21st inst., or they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by ADAMSON, BELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 14th April, 1891.

## Intimations.

KELLY & WALSH, LD.

AYRE'S CHAMPIONSHIP TENNIS BALLS of 1891 manufacture.

Salter's Black Gut Tennis Bats.

Slazenger's "The Demon" and "Special Demon" Bat.

Lawn Tennis Presses.

Tape Measures for making out Courts.

A fine selection of Dog Collars.

New Menu Tablets.

Plain and Gilt Edge Squerees.

Dougherty's Indicator Cards.

Cheap Playing Cards for Clubs.

Foster's Self Teaching Whist Cards, by means of which any one may acquire not only a knowledge of the game, but a proficient Scientific player.

Poker Chips and Counters.

Whist Markers.

SWEET CAPORAL CIGARETTES.

KELLY & WALSH, LIMITED, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, HONGKONG.

Hongkong, 14th April, 1891.

ROBERT LANG & CO., TAILORS, HATTERS, SHIRTMAKERS, AND GENTLEMEN'S OUTFITTERS, OPPOSITE HONGKONG HOTEL.

OUR Stock of Seasonable Goods is now on sale in all the newest MATERIALS, comprising a large variety of DRESS SUITING from \$30 upwards. TWEEDS for SUITS, ULSTERS and INVERNESS CAPES, CORDS and ELASTICS for RIDING and SHOOTING BREECHES and LEGGINGS.

EVENING DRESS SHIRTS, COLLARS, TIES, CLOVES, SILK, LISLE THREAD and CASHMERE, SOCKS, PATENT LEATHER PUMPS and SHOES, &c., &c.

ROBERT LANG & Co.

Hongkong, 9th January, 1891.

W. B. BREWER HAS JUST RECEIVED

OLIVER Wendell Holmes' Works, complete 6 vols.

Year Book of Medical Treatment, 1891.

Booth's In Darkest England, cheap ed.

Cyclopedia of Classical Quotations 9 vols., \$3.75

Ventilation by Buchan.

Rosset's How to find the Stars.

Encyclopedia of Whist.

Cavendish, Pole, Walker, and Clay on Whist.

Wilson's 2 Century in Photography.

Stanley on Surveying Instruments.

Renan's Life of Christ, and other works by same author.

New Pianos by Broadwood, Collard and Collard, Kirkman, &c. on easy terms.

New Stock of Brown Russia Shoes, excellent quality and very reasonable.

W. BREWER, UNDER HONGKONG HOTEL.

Hongkong, 14th April, 1891.

BURGUNDIES.

BEAUJOLAIS, MACON, BEAUNE, POMMARD, VOLNAY, CLOS DE VOUGEOT, CHAMBERTIN, SPARKLING RED BURGUNDY, CHAULIS.

CALDBECK, MACGREGOR & Co., WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

Hongkong—18, Queen's Road.

W. POWELL & CO. NEW SHIPMENT OF COOKING RANGES, LAMPS, LAMP SU'DRIES, COOKING UTENSILS, FAIRBANK'S SCALES, MILNER'S SAFES.

W. POWELL & CO.

Hongkong, 1st April, 1891.

PIANOS FOR SALE. A. HAHN. PIANOS ON HIRE.

20 % DISCOUNT ON ALL

FANCY GOODS, LEATHER GOODS, LADIES' DRESSES, JERSEYS, STOCKINGS, &c., &c.

LADIES' UMBRELLAS, GENTLEMEN'S HATS, HOSES, CHILDREN'S DRESSES, BOOTS, &c., &c.

No. 2, PEDDER'S STREET.

Hongkong, 11th April, 1891.

HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION! 9TH PRIZE MEETING.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO. HAVE FOR SALE MARTINI-HENRI MATCH RIFLES.

LOADING & CLEANING SETS, FITTED CASES OF PAINTS & REQUISITES, FRONT and BACK SIGHT PROTECTORS, POCKET CLEANERS in CASES, VERNIERS, VENTOMETERS, BARREL BRUSHES, ORTHOPTICS, BARREL REFLECTORS, GUN OIL, CARTRIDGE BAGS, WIMBLEDON SCORING BOOKS, &c., &c.

WATERPROOF GROUND SHEETS, SHOOTING BOOTS.

LANE CRAWFORD & CO.

Hongkong, 25th March, 1891.

CRUICKSHANK & CO., LD., FAMILY AND DISPENSING CHEMISTS, AND Commission Agents.

KOLA-CHOCOLATE.

SPECIALLY suitable for delicate persons, invalids, dyspeptics, brain workers, travellers, sportsmen, athletes, and in all other instances where a nourishing and sustaining food is a necessity.

SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED BY M. K. HARGREAVES, M.D.

GRANT'S SCOTCH OAT FLOUR.

A Special preparation from Finest Scotch Oats for Infants and Invalids.

SOLD IN TINS, 50 CENTS EACH.

Hongkong, 7th April, 1891.

## Shipping.

STEAMERS.

STEAM TO YOKOHAMA, VIA NAGASAKI AND KOBE.

(Passing through the INLAND SEA.)

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamship

"VERONA," Captain F. H. Seymour, will leave for the above places on SATURDAY, the 18th inst., at DAY-LIGHT.

E. L. WOODIN, Superintendent.

Hongkong, 7th April, 1891.

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR PORT DARWIN, QUEENSLAND PORTS, SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.

THE Company's Steamship

"CHANGSHA," J. E. Williams, Commander, will be despatched as above on MONDAY, the 20th inst.

The attention of Passengers is directed to the Superior Accommodation offered by this Steamer. First Class Saloon and Cabin are situated forward of the Engine.

Second Class Passengers are Berthed in the Poop. A Refrigerating Chamber ensures the supply of Fresh Provisions during the entire voyage. A duly qualified Surgeon is carried.

For Freight or Passage, apply to BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hongkong, 11th April, 1891.

AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN LLOYD'S STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

STEAM FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, BOMBAY, ADEN, HOODEDA, MASSAWAH, SUAKIM, JEDDAH, SUEZ, PORT SAID, BRINDISI, TRIESTE, VENICE AND FUME.

(Tacking Cargo at through rates to CALCUTTA, MADRAS, PERSIAN GULF, RED SEA, BLACK SEA, LONDON, and ADRIATIC PORTS.)

THE Company's Steamship

"MARIA TERESA," Captain R. Deperis, will be despatched as above on TUESDAY, the 21st instant, at NOON.

Cargo will not be received on board after 3 P.M. prior to date of sailing.

For further information as to Passage and Freight, apply to DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 8th April, 1891.

STEAM TO STRAITS AND BOMBAY, (Calling at Colombo if sufficient inducement offers.)

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamship

"THIBET," Captain W. L. Brown, will leave for the above places on FRIDAY, the 24th instant, at NOON.

E. L. WOODIN, Superintendent.

Hongkong, 11th April, 1891.

## Mails.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG, 1891.

Partha ..... Tuesday... May 5th.

Empress of Japan ..... Tuesday... June 2nd.

Empress of India ..... Tuesday... June 30th.

THE Steamship

"PARTHA," Captain J. Pantou, R.N.R., sailing at Noon, on TUESDAY, the 5th May, with Her Majesty's Mails, will proceed to VANCOUVER, via SHANGHAI and YOKOHAMA.

RATES OF PASSAGE.

From HONGKONG, First Class.

To Vancouver, Victoria, Esquimaux, Seattle, Tacoma, Portland, O., \$225.00

To Banff, Calgary ..... \$225.00

To Winnipeg ..... \$225.00

To Minneapolis, St. Paul, Duluth ..... \$285.00

To Chicago, Kansas City, St. Louis, Milwaukee ..... \$295.00

To Detroit, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Hamilton, London, (Ont.), Toronto, Niagara Falls ..... \$305.00

To Kingston, Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec, New York, Albany, Troy, Rochester, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Washington, Boston, Portland (Maine), Halifax, St. John's

To Liverpool and London ..... \$315.00

To Paris and Bremen ..... \$345.00

To Havre and Hamburg ..... \$335.00

Through Passage Tickets granted to England, France, and Germany by all trans-Atlantic lines of steamers.

Special rates (first-class only) are granted to Missionaries, members of the Naval, Military, Diplomatic, and Civil Services, to European officials in service of China and Japan, and to Government officials.

Return Tickets.—First and second class only. —Prepaid return tickets to Pacific Coast Ports, and to Eastern and Interior Points of Canada and U.S.A. will be granted, available for 12 months at 25 per cent. off Return Fare.

4 " 50 per cent. " " (Time reckoned from the date of issue to date of re-embarkation at Vancouver.)

Passengers to Pacific Coast Ports and to Interior and Eastern Points of Canada and U.S.A. not holding prepaid return tickets, but who re-embark at Vancouver within 12 months from date of issue of original ticket, will be allowed to per cent. off the return fare.

Prepaid return tickets to Liverpool and London will be issued available for 12 months at \$50 or for 4 months \$57.

CARGO.—Through Bills of Lading issued to Japan, Pacific Coast Ports, and to Canadian and United States Ports.

Consular Invoices of Goods for United States Ports should be in quadruplicate; and one copy must be sent forward by the steamer to the care of D. E. Brown, Assistant General Freight and Passenger Agent, Canadian Pacific Railway Company, Vancouver, B. C.

Parcels must be sent to our Office with address marked in full by 5 P.M. on the day previous to sailing.

For further information as to Passage or Freight, apply to ADAMSON, BELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 8th April, 1891.

## Mails.

U.S. MAIL LINE.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY, THROUGH TO NEW YORK, VIA OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND TOUCHING AT YOKOHAMA AND SAN FRANCISCO.







## WESTERN SHANTUNG.

The society known as the T'ai Li, the headquarters of which are supposed to be in Tientsin, has been often surprised, as often bursts out again into full vigor. Within the past few years, it appears to have spread southward, in this direction. It is more than three years since mention was made in these columns of a case in this district, in which the local magistrate captured the leaders of the T'ai Li fraternity, just as they were about to hold one of their annual feasts. In the same place precisely the same thing happened a year or more later, and in the third moon of last year, the experience was repeated in the district of T'ieh-chow. The magistrate had five head-masters apprehended, examined them severely, and accused them of belonging to the "White Lily Sect," a name full of terrors for Chinese magistrates ever since the days of the Taipings. It was in vain for the leaders to declare that theirs is a harmless society; the official could not be made to understand what the particular "li" or "ritual" is, which they profess to observe, and had them all beaten for a warning. Since then the sect has to some extent waned, but is present in the districts next south of this one in flourishing numbers. The adherents are said to be counted by many hundreds. The people are all perfectly well aware of the fact of the propagation of this sect but do not concern themselves about it, except with characteristic Chinese prudence to make it a point to refrain from all depreciatory allusions to the society, at fairs or other public places, as its adherents are so numerous and widely diffused that a crowd of them might easily be gathered to take vengeance upon one wholly unsuspecting of any evil. The head-master of (Shih-shan) is said to give a fee of about \$500 for each adherent, which evidently makes it an object to him to spread the new doctrine. There is so little that is novel about mere abstinence from wine, opium and tobacco, that it is impossible to persuade the average Chinese that there is not some deep ulterior design involved in this sect, especially as it is noted that the recruits are nearly all of a bad class, many of them former opium-smokers, gamblers, and otherwise objectionable. They are pledged to reveal the secrets neither to father and mother above, nor to wife and children below. The maxim never to speak of matters in the house of one who was hanged, is quite Chinese in its spirit. Upon visiting a certain village not long since, the writer was cautioned not to say anything reflecting upon Mohammedans, for the reason that most of the people in that village were originally members of that race and sect, but were now "perverts" to heathenism. As cases of this sort do not appear to be sufficiently frequent to relieve them of novelty, it seemed worth while to make careful inquiries of acquaintances in other villages adjacent. It was the unanimous testimony that the alleged truth, the secession from Mohammedanism took place about three generations since, and was caused by the circumstance that one of the Mohammedans had taken an illiterate degree, which requires at Confucian temples devotions not theretofore accordant with Mohammedan prejudices. But as many officials are taken from the circle of the followers of the prophet, who for that purpose put their faith in abeyance, the explanation did not seem altogether satisfactory. One of the suburbs of the nearest district city was full of Mohammedans, who visited the recruits, reviled them for three days, and hung pieces of pork at their doors, as a contemptuous challenge. At the expiration of that the separation was complete, and the clan "lapsed into idolatry and the use of coffins. Even the surname was changed in character, but not in sound, from Ma (horse) to Ma (hemp).

It would be interesting to ascertain whether other similar instances have been noted, and if so whether there is reason to suppose them to be common. A friend of the writer was drawing water from his village some time ago, using a kind of well-sweep not unusual in that region, consisting of a tall pole stuck in the ground with another hung crosswise, the latter being suspended from one end of the latter. At the other end one or two heavy stones are placed as weights to bring the bucket up when full. While he was raising his bucket, his back being turned to the end of the sweep freighted with the stones, a stranger came along just in time to get knocked on the head. When our friend turned round, there was a man lying dead under the stones of the sweep, and no one else in sight. This made a serious matter of water-drawing. The stranger was removed to a house nearby, and every effort was made to bring him to consciousness, and after he had been worked over all night, the attempt fortunately succeeded. Strange to say, he did not seem to be injured vitally, and in the morning was sent on his way, with a gift of a plaster for his cranium. If the stones had been a little heavier, we fear that our friend might by this time be living in banishment, on the frontiers of the empire, as a punishment for not being able to see behind him when drawing water from a deep well.

This reminds us of another case which occurred a few months ago, in a family with which the writer is acquainted. Several small boys were playing about a well, which, as seems invariably to be the case in China, was altogether free from any screen whatever. During the play, one of the children fell into the well, and all the rest adopted what so far as we know is the inevitable plan of Chinese children on such occasions, and ran away as fast as possible. When the child was missed, a long search was made, and next day he was found in the well, the children meantime having allowed the facts to leak out. The family which had lost the child insisted that one of the other children, a "cousin" or "uncle cousin," had pushed him in on purpose, and threatened a lawsuit. This was a mere device to get something out of a well-to-do family, an adopted son of which was one of the children concerned. The widow, who was the head of the family, dreaded about all things a harassing lawsuit, rather than run the risk of it, consented to make out a deed for the transfer of *tan mou* of land as a satisfaction to the feelings of the afflicted parents of the drowned child. In another village in the same county, several children were playing about a school-house, and one of them proposed that they should make a game of hanging, of which every Chinese child is certain to hear a great deal. One of the children placed his guide about his neck, climbed on a bench, placed the guide over the door-frame, and his companions pulled away the bench. Frightened at the struggles of the child in the air, his comrades all ran off, and long before the circumstance became known, the child was dead. In such cases, whether the parents make a demand for some kind of reparation will depend upon their ability to make trouble, and to terrify the other party.

It is well known that Chinese boys are very much addicted to the practice of running away from home, which they often do whenever their parents treat them with exceptional harshness, when the schoolmaster is too strict, or when domestic matters do not go to their liking. Every village has such cases, which nearly always take the same course. The lad directs his foot-steps to some relative or acquaintance upon whom he may fasten himself, while he is trying to induce a cold world to yield him a support upon easier terms than he had at home. It is not often that one hears of a Chinese runaway, who does well. Such an one the writer met a few days since, and his case is so exceptional as to be almost

worth relating. At the early age of eleven this boy lost both his parents, and although several of his uncles were in good situations in the district, namely, the last did not find such encouragement as to make him fond of the place of his birth. Accordingly he accompanied a party of soldiers to Tientsin, distant more than two hundred miles, where the soldiers were ordered to work on a new water-way which the Governor-General was at that time making from the Grand Canal to the P'ihai at Hsin-ch'eng. Here the bright little lad attracted the attention of an official, who enquired into the circumstances, and took the child to wait upon the official's wife. After a while the official was promoted, but took the trouble to commend the lad to another mandarin, with whom the child had a similar experience, until he had grown to be a man, and had come into the employ of the Customs at Shanghai, and many other places. He has now obtained a leave of absence for a few months, and for the first time in eleven years returns to his home. Out of his pay of five or six taels per month, he is generally able to save but a small amount, owing to the extravagant habits which such positions require. But the return of a youth of 22, who ran away a mere child, and who has met with what from the Chinese point of view must be regarded as dazzling success, can scarcely fail to influence many other children of his native city to repeat the experiment when fortune opens to them the way. The case is of interest, as showing that "ads" are sometimes to be met with who have the good sense to fulfil their duties promptly and efficiently, without making constant complaints about them, and without passing upon them. With such a qualification, it is youth would never have succeeded, and the lack of it is a very common defect among Chinese who are in the position of servants. Every one is aware that the Chinese have a system of numeration on their fingers, of which they make constant use, and a knowledge of which is almost a necessary condition of comprehending, not to say what is said, as what is pointed out. It is also well known, having been remarked by all observant travellers, like Baron Richthofen, that on occasions when the Chinese do their bargaining in a fair or other place, where it is desirable to keep the terms secret, the digital plan of notation is employed by feeling the fingers within their long sleeves, which are a perfect bar to curious spectators, or listeners. But it is one thing to be aware of this practice, and another to be expert in it, as was recently exhibited in the experience of a friend of the writer, who for lack of such experience found himself placed in a strange position. He was offered a horse-trade, while away from home, and the animal which it was proposed to exchange for his own, was brought forward, hauled around by the tail (to prove his gentleness), and otherwise displayed. Our friend's mind then came confidentially forward, followed of course by eager listeners, and grasping his employer's arm, inserted a hand within his sleeve, and began clucking at his fingers, and at the palm of his hand, in a manner which was evidently intended to be full of meaning. "The owner of the horse," he said, "wanted so much for his pony, and would only allow so much for ours" (at the same time giving significant grips), "but I told him that friendship is friendship, while business is business, and that so much for his, so much for ours, and so much business in cash, would be about the proper thing; don't you think so?" What was our friend to do? Of the several amounts named, he had not the smallest notion whatever, not having been able to get any definite conception of what the fingers denoted. To ask what the sum was, would have betrayed his ignorance, not only to the bystanders, possibly upsetting the bargain, but worse still to the mafioso, the thought of doing which would ruin him. He was obliged to trust in any case it was necessary to trust largely to the mafioso's discretion. So our friend said thoughtfully, "Yes, that is not far from the right sum, for such a horse," wondering meantime what the sum might be. Later in the day, he was gratified to find that his judgment had not been in fault, for the other party had led away the horse which was offered, the inducement not being sufficient. It is the practice of the fruit farmers in this region to set out their young trees in the middle of the rainy season, when the rains are thought to be the greatest. Another plan is to wait until the middle of November, set out the young trees, water them well, and then bury them entirely under a mound of earth, thrusting in a stalk of *hao-liang* for the trees to "breathe through" during the winter. Next spring, in the term called *chun fua* (the vernal equinox) the trees will be grafted. A Chinese friend who is expert in the fruit business, gave us a friendly caution as to the purchase of fruit trees for raising. Do not buy of the regular nurserymen, said he, because after they have taken up the plants they always make a practice of putting hot water over them, to make it certain that they will not live, in order that the trees may be replaced next year. To avoid this malpractice, the only way is to buy through some one who is known to you, who buys of some one who is known to him, in which case pure friendship prevents scalding!—N. C. Daily News.

## "THE BRITON'S LAND."

In the December number of the Journal of the Royal Colonial Institute a vociferously patriotic lawyer of Melbourne named Dennistoun Wood rises to ask in a deep, hollow tone about the exact location of "The Briton's land." He starts by throwing the following statement of his chest—Should German, Russ, or Frank demand what country is the Briton's land, As no vain-glorious boast would I to that inquiry thus reply.

Looking over the reply it appears that the Briton owns pretty nearly all the earth, and that those few unconsidered patches which he hasn't are not worth counting. In fact, Mr. Wood's geography is built on the same pattern as that of Jules Verne's little nigger, who started his lesson thus: "France, belonging to the English, capital Calais, where the Governor, Lord Napoleon, resides; Spain, belonging to the English, capital Gibraltar." However, this is a mere detail. The really important point is that the bird from Yana's dead-cat-straw river has quite forgotten to mention how the Briton got so much land. The brief explanation which follows may enlighten him on this matter—

## THE BRITON'S LAND.

Should any grovelling wretch demand What country is the Briton's land, And any brute whose soul is dead Cast low reflections at his head, We answer that he always got All he could get—he took the lot; He jumped the land, he boned the gold, He snatched all that he could hold, And from the Poles to far Cathay He "faked" things in a Christian way; And every article of worth He snatched from every tribe on earth, And everything on earth he took Save one—he never took his book;— And every place that came to hand, That was the Briton's promised land.

**Intimations.**

**FURNISH THROUGHOUT**

AT THE

**HONGKONG TRADING CO., LTD.**

THE LARGEST AND MOST CONVENIENT

FURNISHING ESTABLISHMENT IN HONGKONG.

CABINET FURNITURE, BEDSTEDS, CARPETS, HOUSEHOLD LINENS, LACE CURTAINS, CHINA, CUTLERY, &c., &

ALL READY FOR IMMEDIATE USE.

PRICES WILL COMPARE FAVORABLY WITH ANY HOUSE IN THE EAST.

**NEW PREMISES, COLONIAL HOUSE.**

Hongkong, 10th April, 1891.

**THE CRITERION DINING SALOON.**

PRICE LIST.

BRKF. & LUNC.	30 Cents.	DINNER	50 Cents.
Supper	35 "	Supper	50 "

Best-tender Plain: 15 Mutton Chop, Tomato Sauce 20  
Pouter House Steak with 15 Broiled Chicken (half) 20  
Mushrooms 15 Red Herrings 10  
Mutton Chop, Plain 15 All Cold Meats 10  
WINE, SPIRITS, &c., &c.

Champagne \$1.00 per Quart. \$1.50 per Pint.  
Beers 40 " 20 " Draught Ales and Stout 10 Cents per Glass.  
Wines, Spirits, &c., &c. Aerated Water 10 "

Proprietor: **E. FUCHS.**

**Today's Advertisements.**

**PERSEVERANCE LODGE OF**  
HONGKONG,  
No. 1165, E.C.

A REGULAR MEETING of the above LODGE will be held in the FREEMASONS' HALL, Zeland Street, THIS EVENING, the 16th instant, at 8.30 for 9 o'clock precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited.  
Hongkong, 16th April, 1891.

**ST. JOHN LODGE**  
OF HONGKONG,  
No. 618, S.C.

A REGULAR MEETING of the above LODGE will be held in the FREEMASONS' HALL, Zeland Street, on SATURDAY, the 16th instant, at 8.30 for 9 o'clock precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited.  
Hongkong, 16th April, 1891.

**VICTORIA CHAPTER,**  
No. 525.

A CONVENTION of EMERGENCY of the above Chapter, will be held in the FREEMASONS' HALL, Zeland Street, on FRIDAY, the 24th inst., at 8.30 for 9 p.m. precisely.  
Hongkong, 16th April, 1891.

**VICTORIA CHAPTER,**  
No. 525.

A REGULAR CONVOCACTION of the above Chapter, will be held in the FREEMASONS' HALL, Zeland Street, on TUESDAY, the 28th inst., at 8.30 for 9 p.m. precisely.  
Hongkong, 16th April, 1891.

**FOR SHANGHAI.**

**THE Steamship**

"AMOI,"  
Captain T. Lehmann, will be despatched for the above Port on SATURDAY, the 18th inst., at 4 p.m.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
SIEMSEN & Co.  
Hongkong, 16th April, 1891.

TO LET AT THE PEAK,  
Possession 1st May, 1891.

**THE HOUSE "CREGGAN,"** Best position.  
Apply to  
M. S. SASSOON & Co.  
Hongkong, 16th April, 1891.

**THE BALMORAL GOLD MINING COMPANY, LIMITED.**

ISSUE OF 4,500 PREFERENCE SHARES AT \$10 EACH, FULLY-PAID UP.

The Directors of the above named Company have been empowered by Special Resolution of the Shareholders of this Company to ISSUE 4,500 SHARES, or such proportion thereof as they may deem necessary. These Shares carry a right to a cumulative preferential dividend of 12 per cent.

In the event of the Company being wound up the holders of these Shares will be entitled to have the assets of the Company (after paying debts) applied in the first place to repayment to them of the amount paid for these Shares.

The Directors are able to state on information received from Sydney that the total amount of the Company's indebtedness is only \$15,000.

The Balmoral property has been very favorably reported on by independent experts at Sydney, and the results of Crushings have been satisfactory, although the best stone has not yet been reached.

Advices have been lately received from the Mine informing the Directors that there are more than 8,000 tons of tailings left by former workers ready to hand, and allowing for cost of treatment, cartage, freight, &c., the ore should realize \$2.00 per ton net. These tailings form an additional and valuable asset.

The public are invited to subscribe for these Shares, and in the event of present Shareholders failing to apply, the balance of Shares unapplied for will be allotted *pro rata* to the public.

Application forms are to be obtained from and to be sent to the Company's Bankers, The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation in Hongkong, Shanghai, and Coast Ports on or before the 21st instant, accompanied by payment of \$10 per Share for each Share applied for.

The Directors will probably issue not more than 2,500 of these preference Shares at par.

By Order of the Board,  
K. A. STEVENS,  
Secretary.

Hongkong 16th April, 1891.

**Intimations.**

**FURNISH THROUGHOUT**

AT THE

**HONGKONG TRADING CO., LTD.**

THE LARGEST AND MOST CONVENIENT

FURNISHING ESTABLISHMENT IN HONGKONG.

CABINET FURNITURE, BEDSTEDS, CARPETS, HOUSEHOLD LINENS, LACE CURTAINS, CHINA, CUTLERY, &c., &

ALL READY FOR IMMEDIATE USE.

PRICES WILL COMPARE FAVORABLY WITH ANY HOUSE IN THE EAST.

**NEW PREMISES, COLONIAL HOUSE.**

Hongkong, 10th April, 1891.

**HONGKONG TEMPERATURE.**

(From Messrs. Geo. Falconer & Co.'s Register)

Barometer—9 a.m.	30.02
Barometer—4 p.m.	29.98
Thermometer—9 a.m.	78.0
Thermometer—4 p.m.	82.0
Thermometer—9 a.m. (Wet Bulb)	74.0
Thermometer—4 p.m. (Wet Bulb)	78.0
Thermometer—9 a.m. (Wind)	78.0
Thermometer—4 p.m. (Wind)	82.0
Thermometer—9 a.m. (Wind)	78.0
Thermometer—4 p.m. (Wind)	82.0

**Today's Advertisements.**

**EASTERN AND AUSTRALIAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.**

FOR NAGASAKI AND KOBE.

**THE Steamship**

"GUTHRIE,"  
Captain Shannon, will be despatched for the above Ports TO-MORROW, the 17th instant, at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
RUSSELL & Co., Agents.  
Hongkong, 14th April, 1891.

**THE CHINA AND MANILA STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.**

FOR MANILA, VIA AMOY.

**THE Company's Steamship**

"DIAMANTE,"  
Captain G. Taylor, will be despatched for the above Ports on SATURDAY, the 18th instant, at 4 p.m.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
RUSSELL & Co., General Managers.  
Hongkong, 16th April, 1891.

**DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.**

FOR SWATOW, AMOY & TAIWANFOO.

**THE Company's Steamship**

"THALES,"  
Captain Hunter, will be despatched for the above Ports on SUNDAY, the 19th instant, at Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
DOUGLAS LAMPAIRE & Co., General Managers.  
Hongkong, 16th April, 1891.

**FORMOSA TRADING CORPORATION.**

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND TAMSUI.

**THE Steamship**

"SMITH,"  
Captain Leffer, will be despatched for the above Ports on SUNDAY, the 19th instant at Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
TUCK YUE & Co., Agents.  
Hongkong, 16th April, 1891.

**THE SCOTTISH ORIENTAL STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.**

FOR BANGKOK (DIRECT).

**THE Company's Steamship**

"SOMDETH PHRA NANG,"  
Captain R. Jones, will be despatched for the above Port on SUNDAY, the 19th instant, at 9 a.m.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
YUEN FAT HONG, Agents.  
Hongkong, 16th April, 1891.

**Amusements.**

**THEATRE ROYAL.**

**CITY HALL.**

**THE HONGKONG CHORAL SOCIETY**  
will produce Burnand and Sullivan's Comic Opera  
"THE CONTRABANDISTA,"  
OR  
"THE LAW OF THE LADRONES,"  
ON  
SATURDAY, the 18th April,  
and  
MONDAY, the 20th April.

CHARACTERS:  
Count Vasquez ..... Mr. G. P. LAMBERT.  
Sancho ..... Mr. C. I. HOLLIDAY.  
Jose ..... Mr. R. SMYTHE.  
Mr. Grigg ..... Mr. LIGHTWOOD.  
Mrs. Grigg ..... Mrs. GORDON.  
Mrs. Grigg ..... Mrs. GORDON.  
CHORUS OF ROBBERS, SOLDIERS & PEASANTS.

The "FACHUCA" dance from the "GONDOLIERS" will be introduced by special Request, with fresh Figures.

TRAM-CARS will Run from and to the Peak at suitable hours on above dates.

Dress Circle and Stalls ..... \$2.00  
Back Seats ..... \$1.00

Doors Open at 8.30 p.m. Performance to commence at 9 p.m.

Tickets obtainable at Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co.'s from 10 a.m. on Tuesday, the 14th inst.  
Hongkong, 14th April, 1891.

**Auctions.**

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
OF  
DRAPERY, &c., &c., &c.

**THE Undersigned has received instructions**  
to Sell by Public Auction,  
TO-MORROW,  
the 17th April, 1891, at 2.10 p.m., at his Sale Rooms, Duddell Street,  
A quantity of DRAPERY, &c., comprising—  
LADY'S JERSEYS, ZEPHYRUS DRESSES,  
CREPE COSTUMES, CHILDREN'S DRESSES, HATS AND SHOES, LADY'S STOCKINGS, SILK AND THREAD GLOVES, FANS, &c., GENT'S WHITE SHIRTS, CUFFS and COLLARS, SUIT LENGTHS in LIGHT MATERIAL, TWEEDS, WATER-PROOFS and FANCY GOODS.

The above will be on view on Thursday P.M. TERMS of SALE—Cash before delivery.

G. R. LAMBERT,  
Auctioneer.  
Hongkong, 14th April, 1891.

**Notices of Firms.**

**NOTICE.**

**THE PARTNERSHIP OF HOLMES and RODDY, Solicitors, is dissolved to-day by mutual consent.**

**HENRY J. HOLMES, ARTHUR B. RODDY,**  
Hongkong, 14th April, 1891.

**NOTICE.**

**THE Undersigned will carry on business at his OFFICE No. 51, Queen's Road.**

**HENRY J. HOLMES, Solicitor.**  
Hongkong, 14th April, 1891.

**NOTICE.**

**WE have this day OPENED A BRANCH of our FIRM at HANKOW.**

**CARLOWITZ & Co.**  
Hongkong, 19th March, 1891.

**Intimations.**

**THE PUNJOM AND SUNGHIE DUA SAMANTAN MINING COMPANY, LIMITED.**

**NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.**

**NOTICE** is hereby given that an EXTRA-ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the above Company will be held at the Company's Office, No. 9, Queen's Road Central, Hongkong, on THURSDAY, the 23rd April, 1891, at 4 p.m., when the subjoined Resolution, which was passed at the Extraordinary General Meeting of the Company held this day, the 8th April, 1891, will be submitted for confirmation as a Special Resolution:—

"To Cancel and eliminate from the Articles of Association paragraph No. 2 of Article VI and substitute the following in lieu thereof:—

2. "The Directors in meeting may increase the Capital of the Company by the issue of sixty thousand shares of One Dollar each, and the Company in General Meeting may from time to time increase its Capital by the issue of shares to such further amount, and of such denomination, as the meeting may determine."

"To Cancel and eliminate from the Articles of Association paragraph No. 5 of Article XIII."

"That the Articles of Association be amended by the addition of the following clause after paragraph 11 of Sec. 16, viz:—

12. "That the Directors may at their discretion abandon or surrender the whole or any portion of the Company's property, Sunghie Dua Samantan, situated in the Malay State of Pahang, on such terms and conditions as they may deem fit."

"That it be an instruction to the Directors to issue the new shares as preference shares, and that the holders thereof be entitled to a cumulative preferential dividend at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum."

"That in the event of the Company being wound up the holders of the said preference shares shall be entitled to have the surplus assets of the Company applied in the first place to repaying to them of the amount paid up on such preference shares, the residue of such surplus assets shall belong to and be divided among the ordinary shareholders of the Company."

By Order of the Board,  
A. O'D. GOURDIN,  
Secretary.  
Hongkong, 8th April, 1891.

**NOTICE.**

**HONGKONG & WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY, LIMITED.**

**SHIPMASTERS AND ENGINEERS**

are respectfully informed that, if upon their arrival in this Harbour some of the COMPANY'S FOREMEN should be at hand, ORDERS FOR REPAIRS, if sent to the HEAD OFFICE, No. 14, Praya Central, will receive prompt attention.

In the event of complaints being found necessary, communication with the Undersigned is requested, when immediate steps will be taken to rectify the cause of dissatisfaction.

**D. GILLIES, Secretary.**  
Hongkong, 25th August, 1888.

**NOTICE.**

**THOMAS KERR & CO. ENGINEERS, BOILER-MAKERS AND CONTRACTORS.**

**YAU-MA-TI ENGINEERING WORKS, KOWLOON.**

OFFICE—No. 12, D'Almeida Street.  
Hongkong, 25th August, 1888.

**SIEN TING, SURGEON DENTIST.**

No. 10, D'ALMEIDA STREET.  
TERMS VERY MODERATE.  
Consultation free.  
Hongkong, 18th March, 1891.

**"FOR THE BLOOD IS THE LIFE"**

**CLARK'S WORLD-FAMED BLOOD MIXTURE**

**THE GREAT BLOOD PURIFIER AND RESTORER.**

FOR clearing and clearing the blood from all impurities. It cannot be too highly recommended. For Scrofula, Scurvy, Skin and Blood Diseases, Eczema, and Sores of all kinds, it is a never-failing and permanent cure. It Cures Old Sores. Cures Ulcerated Sores on the Neck. Cures Ulcerated Sore Legs. Cures Blackheads, or Pimples on the Face. Cures Scrofula Sores. Cures Cancerous Ulcers. Cures Blood and Skin Diseases. Cures Glandular Swellings. Clears the Blood from all impure matter. From whatever cause arising. Clarke's Blood Mixture is the only real Specific for Gout and Rheumatic pains, for it removes the cause from the blood and bones. As this mixture is pleasant to the taste, and warranted free from anything injurious to the most delicate constitution of either sex, the Proprietors solicit sufferers to give it a trial to test its value.

**THOUSANDS OF TESTIMONIALS.**

Clarke's Blood Mixture is sold in Bottles at 6d. each, and in cases, containing six times the quantity, 11s.—sufficient to effect a permanent cure in the great majority of long-standing cases, by all Chemists and Patent Medicine Vendors throughout the world. Proprietors, the Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Company, Lincoln, England. Trade Mark—"Blood Mixture."

**CAUTION.**

Purchasers of Clarke's Blood Mixture should see that they get the genuine article. Worthless imitations are sometimes palmed off by unprincipled vendors. The words "Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Company, Lincoln, England," are engraved on the Government Stamp, and "Clarke's World-famed Blood Mixture" blown in the Bottle, without which none are genuine.



## Commercial.

**LATEST QUOTATIONS.**  
 Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, ex. New Issue, 200 per cent., premium, sellers.  
 Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, cum New Issue, 235 per cent., sellers.  
 Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, New Issue, 235 per cent., premium, sellers.  
 Union Insurance Society of Canton—\$95 per share, buyers.  
 China Traders' Insurance Company—\$63 per share, buyers.  
 North China Insurance—Tls. 275 per share, buyers.  
 Canton Insurance Company, Limited—\$115 per share, sellers.  
 Yangtze Insurance Association—Tls. 70 per share, nominal.  
 On Tai Insurance Company, Limited—Tls. 150 per share.  
 Hongkong Fire Insurance Company—\$315 per share, sellers.  
 China Fire Insurance Company—\$224 per share, buyers.  
 Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company—\$98 per cent. premium, sellers.  
 Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Co.—\$131 per share, sales.  
 China and Manila Steam Ship Company—120 per share, sellers.  
 Hongkong Gas Company—\$131 per share, sellers.  
 Hongkong Hotel Company—\$120 per share, buyers.  
 Hongkong Hotel Co.'s Six per cent. Debentures—\$100.  
 Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, Limited—30 per cent. discount, sellers.  
 Douglas Steamship Company—\$48 per share, buyers.  
 China Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$200 per share, buyers.  
 Luzon Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$91 per share, sellers.  
 Hongkong Ice Company—\$90 per share, buyers.  
 Hongkong and China Bakery Company, Limited—\$75 per share.  
 Hongkong Dairy Farm Co., Limited—\$7 per share, buyers.  
 A. S. Watson & Co., Limited—\$213 per share, buyers.  
 Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 B—21 per cent. premium, sellers.  
 Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 C—5 per cent. premium, buyers.  
 Chinese Imperial Loan of 1885 E—14 per cent. premium.  
 Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, Limited—\$122 per share, ex. div., sales and buyers.  
 The Hongkong Steam Laundry Co., Limited—\$25 per share, nominal.  
 Funjong and Sungchi Dua Samantan Mining Co.—\$3 per share, sellers.  
 The Raub Gold Mining Co., Limited—30 cents per share, sellers.  
 Inauris Mining Co., Limited—\$122 per share, buyers.  
 The Balmoral Gold Mining Co., Limited—\$7 per share, sellers.  
 Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company—\$70 per share, buyers.  
 Tongkoo Coal Mining Co.—\$430 per share, buyers.  
 The Hongkong High-Level Tramway Co., Limited—\$65 per share, buyers.  
 The East Borneo Planting Co., Limited—\$10 per share, sellers.  
 H. G. Brown & Co., Limited—\$54 per share, sales and sellers.  
 The Seng Koyah Planting Co., Limited—\$131 per share, buyers.  
 Cruickshank & Co., Limited—\$35 per share, sellers.  
 The Steam Launch Co., Limited—nominal.  
 The Austin Arms Hotel and Building Company, Limited—\$13 per share, sellers.  
 The China-Borneo Co., Limited—\$6 per share, sellers.  
 The Hongkong Brick and Cement Co., Limited—\$12 per share, sellers.  
 The Green Island Cement Co.—\$17 per share, sellers.  
 The Hongkong Land Investment Co., Limited—\$87 per share, sellers.  
 The Hongkong Electric Light Co., Limited—\$6 per share, buyers.  
 Geo. Fenwick & Co., Limited—\$15 per share, sellers.  
 The West Point Building Co., Limited—\$30 per share, sellers.  
 The Peak Hotel and Trading Co., Limited—\$8 per share, sellers.  
 The Labuk Planting Co., Limited—15 per share, sellers.  
 The Laming Planting Co., Limited—\$7 per share, buyers.  
 The Jelabu Mining and Trading Co., Limited—\$2 per share, buyers.  
 The Selama Tin Mining Co., Limited—\$1 per share, buyers.  
 The Shamoon Hotel Co., Limited—nominal.  
 The Kowloon Land Investment Co., Limited—\$15 per share, buyers.  
 The Bank of China & Japan & the Straits Ltd.—\$18 per share, sellers.  
 The Bank of China & Japan & the Straits Ltd.—\$180, Founders' shares, sellers.  
 The Hongkong Marine, Limited—nominal.  
 London and Pacific Petroleum Co., Limited—15, sellers.  
 The National Bank of China—20 per cent. dis. sales and sellers. Founders \$500 sellers.

**EXCHANGE.**  
 ON LONDON—Bank, T. T. 3/11  
 Bank Bills, on demand 3/11  
 Bank Bills, at 1 month's sight 3/12  
 Credits at 3 months' sight 3/12  
 Documentary Bills, at 4 months' sight 3/12  
 ON PARIS—Bank Bills, on demand 3/11  
 Credits, at 4 months' sight 3/12  
 On India, T. T. 2/20  
 On T. T. 2/20  
 ON SHANGHAI—Bank, T. T. 7/18  
 Private, 30 days' sight 7/18

**MAILS EXPECTED.**  
 THE FRENCH MAIL.  
 The Messageries Maritimes Co.'s steamer *Sydney*, with the French mail of the 20th ultimo, left Singapore on the 15th instant and may be expected here on the 22nd.  
 THE AMERICAN MAIL.  
 The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s steamer *City of Peking*, with mails, &c., from San Francisco to the 21st ultimo, left Yokohama on the 15th instant and is due here on the 17th.  
 THE CANADIAN MAIL.  
 The Canadian Pacific Steamship Co.'s steamer *Albatross* left Vancouver for Yokohama and Hongkong on the 27th ultimo.

**STEAMERS EXPECTED.**  
 The Ocean Steamship Co.'s steamer *Myrmidon*, from Liverpool, left Singapore on the 15th instant and is due here on the 18th.  
 The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Gwallior* left Singapore on the 15th instant at 2 p.m. and is due here on the 19th.  
 The Union Line steamer *Rhe*, from Hamburg, left Singapore on the 15th instant and may be expected to arrive on the 19th.

The Ocean Steamship Co.'s steamer *Orestes*, from Liverpool, left Singapore on the 15th instant and is due here on the 20th.  
 The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Nizam* left Bombay on the 9th instant and may be expected here on the 20th.

**Shipping.**

**ARRIVALS.**  
 SURY WONGSE, German steamer, 513, J. R. VII, 15th April, Bangkok 9th April, Rice—Wieler & Co.  
 CLARA, German steamer, 675, H. Ipland, 15th April, Halphong 11th April, Rice and General—A. R. Marty.  
 MEIKOO, Chinese steamer, 1,338, W. H. Lum, 15th April, Shanghai 11th April, General—C. M. S. N. Co.  
 CHANGSHA, British steamer, 1,463, J. E. Williams, 15th April, Whampoa 15th April, General—Butterfield & Swire.  
 AMOV, German steamer, 814, Th. Lehmann, 15th April, Whampoa 15th April, General—Stemmen & Co.  
 BANTAM, Dutch steamer, 1,520, Lodvalle, 16th April, Singapore 9th April, General—Jardine, Matheson & Co.  
 HOLME EDEN, British steamer, 1,453, J. Prentice, 16th April, Antwerp 22nd Feb., General—Order.  
 VILLARS, French cruiser, 2,300, Capt. Thounens, 16th April, Tourane 13th April.  
 TRIUMPHANTE, French frigate, 8,000, Captain M. de Comulles, 16th April, Saigon 6th April.  
 INCONSTANT, French gunboat, 800, Commander de Jouglares, 16th April, Tourane 13th April.  
 JOHANN, German steamer, 418, H. Blinge, 16th April, Saigon 10th April, Rice—Wieler & Co.  
 YUNG-PING, British steamer, 594, H. P. Percival, R.N.R., 16th April, Singapore 8th April, General—Russell & Co.  
 FRANK, Danish steamer, 397, C. A. Strand, 16th April, Pakhol and Holbois 15th April, General—Arnhold, Karberg & Co.

**CLEARANCES AT THE HARBOUR OFFICE.**  
*Electra*, German steamer, for Yokohama.  
*Laja*, British steamer, for Amoy, &c.  
*Formosa*, British steamer, for Swatow.  
*Michael Jensen*, German steamer, for Nagasaki.  
*Chow-chow-foo*, German steamer, for Chefoo.

**DEPARTURES.**  
 April 16, *Electra*, German str., for Yokohama.  
 April 16, *Formosa*, British str., for Swatow, &c.  
 April 16, *Fritzy of Nansen*, Norwegian str., for Yokohama.  
 April 16, *General Warden*, German steamer, for Nagasaki, &c.  
 April 16, *Preussen*, German str., for Shanghai.  
 April 16, *Laja*, British str., for Amoy, &c.  
 April 16, *Michael Jensen*, German steamer, for Nagasaki, &c.  
 April 16, *Malwa*, British str., for Singapore, &c.

**PASSENGERS—ARRIVED.**  
 Per *Sury Wongse*, str., from Bangkok—30 Chinese.  
 Per *Meikoo*, str., from Shanghai—26 Chinese.  
 Per *Bantam*, str., from Singapore—77 Chinese.  
 Per *Freije*, str., from Pakhol, &c.—Mr. and Mrs. Schöth, and 80 Chinese.

**REPORTS.**  
 The German steamer *Sury Wongse* reports that she left Bangkok on the 9th instant. Had fine weather throughout. From Cape Padaran had fresh south-east winds.  
 The Chinese steamer *Meikoo* reports that she left Shanghai on the 11th instant. Had strong south wind and high sea with fine weather; to port had thick fog.

**Post Office.**

**A MAIL WILL CLOSE**  
 For Chefoo and Newchwang—Per *Chow-chow-foo* to-morrow, the 17th instant, at 11.30 A.M.  
 For Nagasaki and Kobe—Per *Guthrie* to-morrow, the 17th instant, at 11.30 A.M.  
 For Swatow, Amoy, and Singapore—Per *Sikhan* to-morrow, the 17th instant, at 1.30 P.M.  
 For Nagasaki, Kobe, and Yokohama—Per *Verona* to-morrow, the 17th instant, at 5.00 P.M.  
 For Halphong—Per *Clara* to-morrow, the 17th instant, at 5.00 P.M.

**SHIPPING IN HONGKONG.**

**STEAMERS.**  
 ABYSSINIA, British steamer, 2,148, J. C. Williamson, R.N.R., 1st April, Saigon 27th March, Rice—Kung Yuen.  
 AMIGO, German steamer, 771, T. Bruhn, 9th April, Saigon 4th April, Rice and Paddy—Wieler & Co.  
 BENALDER, British steamer, 1,204, McIntosh, 13th April, Saigon 8th April, Rice—Gibb, Livingston & Co.  
 BENOLAR, British steamer, 1,198, Farquhar, 15th April, London 2nd Feb., and Singapore 9th April, General—Gibb, Livingston & Co.  
 BENARDI, British steamer, 1,481, J. H. Clark, 11th April, Saigon 7th April, General—Gibb, Livingston & Co.  
 CHOW-CHOW-FOO, German steamer, 795, Clausen, 2nd April, Saigon 28th March, Rice—Melchers & Co.  
 DELTA, French steamer, 717, Abhal, 14th April, Halphong 10th April, General—Messageries Maritimes.  
 FAME, British steamer, 117, Lieut. Wm. G. Conley, R.N.R.—Hongkong Government tender.  
 GUTHRIE, British steamer, 1,493, N. Shannon, 12th April, Sydney 21st March, Moreton Bay 23rd, Keppel Bay 25th, Townsville 26th, Cooktown 28th, Thursday Island 30th, and Port Darwin 2nd April, General—Russell & Co.  
 MARIA TERESA, Austro-Hungarian steamer, 3,100, R. Deperis, 13th April, Trieste 15th Feb., Bombay 24th March, and Singapore 15th April, General—D. Sassoon, Sons & Co.  
 MARTHA, German steamer, 1,850, Ahrensfeld, 14th April, Shanghai and Wuhu, 8th April, Rice—Tong Tai Cheong & Co.  
 MONKUT, British steamer, 859, G. Anderson, 8th April, Portland (Oregon), 6th March, Flou, Adamson, Bell & Co.  
 NANSHEAN, British steamer, 805, J. Blackburne, 14th April, Bangkok 6th April, Rice—Hop Hing Hong.  
 PARKUT, British steamer, 2,035, John Paxton, R.N.R., 15th April, Saigon 10th April, General—Adamson, Bell & Co.  
 SINGAN, British str., 1,056, Price, 12th April, Whampoa 12th April, General—Butterfield & Swire.  
 SISEAN, British steamer, 845, E. F. Stovell, 13th April, Saigon 9th April, Rice, Paddy and Fish—Chinese.  
 SOMDITCH PHRA NANO, British steamer, 1,071, R. Jones, 14th April, Bangkok 8th April, Rice—Yuen Fat Hong.  
 TAIKANG, British steamer, 1,105, H. Hogg, 15th April, Wuhu 10th April, Rice—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

**HONGKONG—STEAMERS.**  
*Continued.*  
 THALES, British steamer, 820, Hunter, 15th April, Taiwan 10th April, Amoy 11th, Swatow 12th, General—D. Lapelle & Co.  
 THAMCE AY, Chinese steamer, 356, Wong Ling Sing, 11th Dec., Halphong 27th Dec., Ballast—Chinese.  
 VERONA, British steamer, 1,876, F. H. Seymour, 13th April, Yokohama 4th April, Mails and General—P. & O. S. N. Co.

**SAILING VESSELS.**  
 ADOLPH OBRIG, American bark, 1,375, F. Carlston, 5th March, New York 31st August, Kenosha Oil—Reuter, Brockmann & Co.  
 DOROTHY, German bark, 620, H. F. Moeller, 25th March, Hamburg 20th Oct., General—Stemmen & Co.  
 ERLEKONTO, Chinese bark, 457, Optum Examination hulk, Stonecutters' Island—Chinese Customs.  
 GREAT ADMIRAL, American ship, 1,497, J. F. Rowell, 11th March, Newcastle, N.S.W., 19th January, Coal—Order.  
 HEDWICH, German bark, 923, F. H. Bannan, 22nd Feb., Hamburg 20th Sept., General—Canloris & Co.  
 JAPAN, Peruvian bark, 398, M. Janila, 17th Nov., Callao (Peru) 30th August, General—Gonzales & Co.  
 JENNY, American schooner, 47, Baude, 9th Jan., Yap 26th December, Beche-de-mer—Master.  
 PENSEW, British bark, 720, John Lookay, 18th Feb., Camagan (Philippines), 7th Feb., Timber—Gibb, Livingston & Co.  
 PREHOD, British bark, 450, C. Hansen, 7th April, Cebu, 12th March, Rattan—Russell & Co.  
 ORIENT, German bark, 461, H. R. Gontard, 6th April, Singapore 10th Feb., Timber—Wieler & Co.  
 SARA MERCEDES, Peruvian schooner, 245, A. Mundana, 4th July, Saigon 27th June, Rice—Captain.  
 WM. LE LACHUR, British bark, 573, W. Auld, 7th March, Honolulu 21st January, Iron, Copper, &c.—Wing Wo Chan & Co.

**Intimations.**

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF HONGKONG.**  
**PROBATE JURISDICTION.**  
 In the matter of the Estate of JOHN HENRY SMITH, late of Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong, Storekeeper, deceased.  
 NOTICE is hereby given that the Honourable the Chief Justice having, in virtue of Section 3 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1870, made an Order limiting to the 9th August, 1891, the time for sending in claims against the said Estate.  
 All creditors are hereby required to send in their claims to the undersigned before the said date and all persons indebted to the said Estate are requested to make immediate payment.  
 Dated this 14th day of April, 1891.  
 WOTTON & DEACON,  
 Solicitors for the Executors,  
 35, Queen's Road, Hongkong.

**HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.**  
**A COMPETITION for the Short Range HANDICAP CHALLENGE CUP and SPOONS**, will be held on SATURDAY next, the 18th instant, commencing at 2.15 P.M. Range 500 and 600 yards; usual conditions.  
 A Launch will leave the P. & O. Pier at 2.45 P.M. to convey competitors.  
 FRANK COLLINS,  
 Hon. Secretary.  
 Hongkong, 14th April, 1891.

**Dr. Knorr's ANTIPYRINE.**  
*(Dose for Adults 15 to 25 grains Troy.)*  
 IS the most approved and most efficacious remedy in cases of HEADACHE, MIGRAINE, NEURALGIA, RHEUMATISM, FEVER, TYPHUS, ERYSIPELAS, HOOPING-COUGH, and many other complaints. It is also the very best Antiseptic. Highly recommended by the medical Faculty. To be had from every reputable Chemist and Druggist. Ask for DR. KNORR'S ANTIPYRINE! Each Tin bears the inventor's signature, "Dr. KNORR" in red letters.  
 Supplies constantly on hand at the China Export, Import, and Bank Co.—Sole Agents for China. Beware of spurious imitations! Hongkong, 20th May, 1891.

**NOTICE.**  
**STATUTORY NOTICE TO CREDITORS.**  
 IN THE HIGH COURT OF SANDAKAN.  
 IN ITS PROBATE JURISDICTION.  
 In the Will and Estate of CHARLES WALTER FLINT, of Sandakan, Deceased.  
 NOTICE is hereby given that all Creditors and other persons having any claims against the Estate of CHARLES WALTER FLINT, deceased, late of Sandakan, Merchant, Probate of whose Will has been granted by the High Court of Sandakan, to H. B. DUNLOP of Sandakan, Executor appointed by the Will of the said deceased, are hereby required to send in particulars of such claims to the said undersigned, on or before the 31st day of May, 1891. And Notice is hereby given that after such date the said Executor will proceed to distribute the assets of the said deceased among the parties entitled thereto having regard only to the claims of which he shall then have had notice.  
 Dated this 1st day of November, 1890.  
 F. J. MARCUS,  
 Registrar.  
 Receiver for the said Executor.  
 High Court, Sandakan.

**NOTICE.**  
**JAY'S SANITARY COMPOUNDS COMPANY, LIMITED.**  
**JAY'S WOOD PRESERVER OR ANTISEPTIC PAINT.**  
 THE Undersigned have this day been appointed SOLE AGENTS for the sale of these PERFECT DISINFECTANTS, and are prepared to supply quantities to suit purchasers, at Wholesale Prices. Extra Special terms for Shipping and large Orders.  
 Sir ROBERT RAWLINSON, C.B., C.E., Chief Sanitary Engineer, Local Government Board, London, says:  
 "It is the best Disinfectant in use."  
 W. G. HUMPHREYS & Co., Bank Buildings.  
 Hongkong, 24th March, 1891.

**SHANGHAI RACES.**  
**THE MESSAGERIES MARITIMES CO. AND THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAMSHIP NAVIGATION CO.**  
 WILL SHANGHAI RETURN TICKETS to or about the 8th, 14th, and 22nd instant, available for return by either Line and allowing of one month's stay at Shanghai.  
 FARES—First Saloon \$50.  
 Second 40.  
 Hongkong, 6th April, 1891.

**NOTICE.**  
**GRIFFITH'S PHOTOGRAPHIC ROOMS**  
 1, Ice House Road are suitably lighted to produce all styles of Portraits in any weather.  
 CABINETS from \$5 a dozen.  
 CARTES DE VISITE from \$3 a dozen.  
 LIFE SIZED BUSTS in Colour, or Black & White.  
 IVORY MINIATURES, &c., &c.  
 NEW VIEWS OF HONGKONG and the Coast Ports are always ready.  
 Hongkong, 24th September, 1890.

**DENTISTRY.**  
**FIRST CLASS WORKMANSHIP AND MODERATE FEES.**  
**M. R. WONG TAI-FONG,**  
 Surgeon Dentist, (Formerly articled Apprentice, and latterly assistant to Dr. DOUGLAS), HAS REMOVED TO THE MARINE HOUSE, QUEEN'S ROAD (next to the Telegraph Companies).  
 CONSULTATION FREE.  
 Hongkong, 7th March, 1891.

**W. S. MARTEN, ARTISTIC DECORATOR,**  
 2, DUDDELL STREET, HONGKONG.  
 Hongkong, 6th April, 1890.

**HONGKONG TIMBER YARD, WANCHAI.**  
**OREGON PINE SPARS and LUMBER** Always on Hand.  
**L. MALLORY.**  
 Hongkong 24th March 1891.

**JOHN AMBROSE CLARKE,**  
 Teacher of Officers and Engineers,  
 No. 75, WYNDHAM STREET, Opposite Central Police Station.

**CANDIDATES prepared for the MARINE BOARD EXAMINATIONS.**  
 Author of the "NEW NAVIGATION," And an "Arithmetic" for Engineers, &c.  
 Hongkong, 7th February, 1891.

**NOTICE.**  
 THE Undersigned undertakes to produce First Class Photographs. Gentlemen wishing to patronize may have PROOFS OF PROOFS sent to them for approval, and if not satisfied, no charge will be made.  
 Cabinets (enamelled) \$5 a dozen.  
 Cartes de Visite do. 2  
 PUN WOO, PHOTOGRAPHER,  
 84, Queen's Road Central, (Top Floor of Teen Sing Bookbinder), Hongkong, 17th February, 1891.

**G. FALCONER & CO.**  
**WATCH and CHRONOMETER MANUFACTURERS and JEWELLERS.**  
**NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS, CHARTS and BOOKS.**  
 No. 48, Queen's Road Central. 1892

**THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY COMPANY, LIMITED.**  
**SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL \$1,000,000.**  
**PAID UP CAPITAL 2,500,000.**  
**RESERVE FUND 1,250,000.**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS.**  
 Hon. J. J. KESWICK, Chairman.  
 Hon. C. P. CHATER, Vice-Chairman.  
 LEE SING, Esq.  
 S. C. MICHAELSEN, Esq.  
 J. S. MOORE, Esq.  
 J. E. NOBLE, Esq.  
 POON PONG, Esq.  
 D. B. SASSOON, Esq.

**BANKERS.**  
**THE HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.**  
**MONEY advanced on Mortgage, on Land, and Buildings.**  
 Properties purchased and sold.  
 Estates Managed and all kinds of Agency and Commission business relating to land, etc., conducted.  
 Full particulars can be obtained at the Company's Offices, No. 5, Queen's Road Central.  
 A. SHELTON HOOPER, Secretary.  
 Victoria Buildings, Hongkong and Shewan, 1890.

**J. & R. HARVEY & CO.**  
**DUNDEE DISTILLERY, GLASGOW.**  
 Established 1779.

**SCOTCH WHISKIES.**  
 Finest Pure Malt Scotch Whisky.  
 O.H.M. Old Highland Malt Whisky.  
 F.O.S. Fine Old Scotch Whisky.  
 V.O.S. Very Old Scotch Whisky.

**MESSRS. HARVEY & Co's Pure Malt Whiskies** have for over fifty years commanded the largest sale in the English Market OF ANY WHISKY made in Scotland, and being thoroughly matured in Sherry Wood are very mild and mellow, and are confidently recommended where a Pure "Wholesome Spirit" is desired.  
 Over one million Gallons produced annually.  
 For Prices and Samples, apply to  
 G. RENNIE STEWART,  
 12, D'Agulard Street, Hongkong,  
 Sole Agent for China and Japan.  
 Hongkong, 28th August, 1890.

**Intimations.**

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF HONGKONG.**  
**PROBATE JURISDICTION.**  
 In the matter of the Estate of JOHN HENRY SMITH, late of Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong, Storekeeper, deceased.  
 NOTICE is hereby given that the Honourable the Chief Justice having, in virtue of Section 3 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1870, made an Order limiting to the 9th August, 1891, the time for sending in claims against the said Estate.  
 All creditors are hereby required to send in their claims to the undersigned before the said date and all persons indebted to the said Estate are requested to make immediate payment.  
 Dated this 14th day of April, 1891.  
 WOTTON & DEACON,  
 Solicitors for the Executors,  
 35, Queen's Road, Hongkong.

**HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.**  
**A COMPETITION for the Short Range HANDICAP CHALLENGE CUP and SPOONS**, will be held on SATURDAY next, the 18th instant, commencing at 2.15 P.M. Range 500 and 600 yards; usual conditions.  
 A Launch will leave the P. & O. Pier at 2.45 P.M. to convey competitors.  
 FRANK COLLINS,  
 Hon. Secretary.  
 Hongkong, 14th April, 1891.

**Dr. Knorr's ANTIPYRINE.**  
*(Dose for Adults 15 to 25 grains Troy.)*  
 IS the most approved and most efficacious remedy in cases of HEADACHE, MIGRAINE, NEURALGIA, RHEUMATISM, FEVER, TYPHUS, ERYSIPELAS, HOOPING-COUGH, and many other complaints. It is also the very best Antiseptic. Highly recommended by the medical Faculty. To be had from every reputable Chemist and Druggist. Ask for DR. KNORR'S ANTIPYRINE! Each Tin bears the inventor's signature, "Dr. KNORR" in red letters.  
 Supplies constantly on hand at the China Export, Import, and Bank Co.—Sole Agents for China. Beware of spurious imitations! Hongkong, 20th May, 1891.

**NOTICE.**  
**STATUTORY NOTICE TO CREDITORS.**  
 IN THE HIGH COURT OF SANDAKAN.  
 IN ITS PROBATE JURISDICTION.  
 In the Will and Estate of CHARLES WALTER FLINT, of Sandakan, Deceased.  
 NOTICE is hereby given that all Creditors and other persons having any claims against the Estate of CHARLES WALTER FLINT, deceased, late of Sandakan, Merchant, Probate of whose Will has been granted by the High Court of Sandakan, to H. B. DUNLOP of Sandakan, Executor appointed by the Will of the said deceased, are hereby required to send in particulars of such claims to the said undersigned, on or before the 31st day of May, 1891. And Notice is hereby given that after such date the said Executor will proceed to distribute the assets of the said deceased among the parties entitled thereto having regard only to the claims of which he shall then have had notice.  
 Dated this 1st day of November, 1890.  
 F. J. MARCUS,  
 Registrar.  
 Receiver for the said Executor.  
 High Court, Sandakan.

**NOTICE.**  
**JAY'S SANITARY COMPOUNDS COMPANY, LIMITED.**  
**JAY'S WOOD PRESERVER OR ANTISEPTIC PAINT.**  
 THE Undersigned have this day been appointed SOLE AGENTS for the sale of these PERFECT DISINFECTANTS, and are prepared to supply quantities to suit purchasers, at Wholesale Prices. Extra Special terms for Shipping and large Orders.  
 Sir ROBERT RAWLINSON, C.B., C.E., Chief Sanitary Engineer, Local Government Board, London, says:  
 "It is the best Disinfectant in use."  
 W. G. HUMPHREYS & Co., Bank Buildings.  
 Hongkong, 24th March, 1891.

**SHANGHAI RACES.**  
**THE MESSAGERIES MARITIMES CO. AND THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAMSHIP NAVIGATION CO.**  
 WILL SHANGHAI RETURN TICKETS to or about the 8th, 14th, and 22nd instant, available for return by either Line and allowing of one month's stay at Shanghai.  
 FARES—First Saloon \$50.  
 Second 40.  
 Hongkong, 6th April, 1891.

**NOTICE.**  
**GRIFFITH'S PHOTOGRAPHIC ROOMS**  
 1, Ice House Road are suitably lighted to produce all styles of Portraits in any weather.  
 CABINETS from \$5 a dozen.  
 CARTES DE VISITE from \$3 a dozen.  
 LIFE SIZED BUSTS in Colour, or Black & White.  
 IVORY MINIATURES, &c., &c.  
 NEW VIEWS OF HONGKONG and the Coast Ports are always ready.  
 Hongkong, 24th September, 1890.

**DENTISTRY.**  
**FIRST CLASS WORKMANSHIP AND MODERATE FEES.**  
**M. R. WONG TAI-FONG,**  
 Surgeon Dentist, (Formerly articled Apprentice, and latterly assistant to Dr. DOUGLAS), HAS REMOVED TO THE MARINE HOUSE, QUEEN'S ROAD (next to the Telegraph Companies).  
 CONSULTATION FREE.  
 Hongkong, 7th March, 1891.

**Hotels.**

**STAG HOTEL,**  
 QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, HONGKONG.  
 THIS HOTEL, situated in the most Central part of Hongkong, has recently been refitted, and has excellent accommodation for visitors.  
 The Table is supplied with every delicacy of the Season.  
 WINES, LIQUORS, &c. of the very best quality only.  
 Charges Moderate.  
 HING LEE & Co., Proprietors.  
 Hongkong, 14th April, 1891.

**THE SHAMEN HOTEL.**  
**BRITISH CONCESSION, CANTON.**  
 THIS FIRST CLASS HOTEL, admirably situated within a few minutes walk of the River Steamer Wharves, is now open to receive Visitors.  
 The Bed-rooms are cool, airy and comfortably furnished, and the spacious Dining Room, Sitting Room, and accommodation generally will be found equal to the best Hotels in the Far East.  
 The Table d'Hôte is supplied with every luxury in season, and the cuisine is in experienced hands.  
 Wines, Spirits, Malt Liquors, etc. of the best quality only.  
 A. F. DO ROZARIO, Manager.  
 Hongkong, 4th November, 1890.

**PEAK HOTEL,**  
 VICTORIA GAP, PEAK,  
 Adjoining the Tramway Terminus.  
 THE most beautiful position in the environs of Hongkong situated 1,250 feet above sea level, commanding magnificent views of the City and Harbour of Victoria, the mainland of China and neighbouring islands.  
 Cool Southern breezes in Summer with perfect protection from N.E. Winds of Winter.  
 The best accommodation of Visitors with every comfort, convenience and attention.  
 The Cuisine is under the best supervision and every luxury obtainable is supplied.  
 WINES, etc. the best. Brands and finest qualities only are kept.  
 TERMS MODERATE.  
 Telephone No. 29.  
 PEAK HOTEL & TRADING Co., Ltd., Proprietors.  
 Hongkong, 13th February, 1891.

**THE BOA VISTA.**  
**BISHOP'S BAY, MACAO.**  
 THIS House, situated on the sea shore in one of the best and healthiest parts of Macao, and commanding an admirable view facing the South, was OPENED as a HOTEL on the 1st July.  
 Every comfort will be provided for visitors, with excellent cuisine and choice wines.  
 Hot, Cold, Shower and Sea Water Baths. Large and well ventilated Dining, Billiard, and Reading Rooms, and well supplied Bar.  
 A small dairy is attached to the premises.  
 MRS. MARIA B. DOS REMEDIOS, Proprietress.

**To be Let.**

**THE KOWLOON LAND AND BUILDING COMPANY, LIMITED.**  
**TO LET,**  
**KNUTSFORD TERRACE, KOWLOON.**  
**HOUSES with 5 ROOMS, including Bath-rooms, Tennis Courts. Good view and Healthy situation. Rent and Taxes \$32, a month.**  
 Apply to  
**THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., Ltd.**  
 Hongkong, 24th March, 1891.

**TO LET,**  
 With Immediate Possession.  
 No. 17, PRAYA CENTRAL.  
**OFFICES—above Messrs. Douglas, Laprak & Co's Premises.**  
 Apply to  
**THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., Ltd.**  
 Hongkong, 16th December, 1890.

**TO LET,**  
 Possession on 1st April next.  
**HOUSE No. 18, ELGIN STREET.**  
 For particulars, apply to  
**LOUIS KIRCHMANN,**  
 No. 4, Ladder Street Terrace.  
 Hongkong, 26th February, 1891.

**TO BE LET.**  
**NO. 10, SEYMOUR TERRACE.**  
 Apply to  
**HERCULES J. SCOTT.**  
 Hongkong, 3rd February, 1891.

**TO LET.**  
**NOS. 25 & 27, ELGIN STREET,** behind the Old Union Church.  
 Apply to  
**ACHEE & Co.**  
 Hongkong, 25th February, 1891.

**TO LET.**  
**NOS. 9 & 11, SEYMOUR TERRACE.**  
**ROOMS in College Chambers**  
**NO. 4, OLD BAILEY STREET.**  
**OFFICES and CHAMBERS in Connaught House, Queen's Road Central.**  
**OFFICES in Victoria Buildings, No. 2, PEDDER'S HILL.**  
 Apply to  
**DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.**  
 Hongkong, 10th April, 1891.

**TO BE LET SHORTLY.**  
**A ROOMED HOUSE.**  
 Apply to  
**THE SECRETARY,**  
 Humphreys Estate & Finance Co., Ltd.  
 On favorable terms, with Immediate Possession.  
**EIGHT HOUSES at "Mountain View," Peak District, near Plunkett's Gap.**  
 If sold, part of the Purchase money can remain on Mortgage.  
 Apply to  
**JOHN A. JUFF.**  
 38 & 40, Queen's Road Central, Hongkong, 10th April, 1891.

**For Sale.**

**INTIMATION.**  
**F. Blackhead & Co.,**  
**SHIP-CHANDLERS, SAIL-MAKERS,**  
**AND**  
**PROVISION MERCHANTS,**  
**NAVY CONTRACTORS,**  
**AND**  
**GENERAL COMMISSION AGENTS.**  
 No. 11, PRAYA CENTRAL.  
*(Opposite Pedder's Wharf).*

**SOLE AGENTS for**  
**RAHTJEN'S GENUINE COMPOSITION**  
 FOR THE BOTTOMS OF IRON SHIPS.  
 HARTMANN'S GREY PAINT, specially manufactured for coating the inside of STEEL SHIPS.  
 SPECIALLY SELECTED, EX. PRIME PORK and BEEF in Barrels, Also AMERICAN PRIME SUGAR-CURED HAMS and BACON.  
 CHR. MOTZ & Co., BORDEAUX CLARET.  
 CEMENT from the celebrated Factory of Hemimont.  
 FLensburg STOCK BEER, ENGINEERS' and BLACKSMITHS' MACHINERY and TOOLS. EVERY KIND OF SHIP'S STORES and REQUISITES ALWAYS IN STOCK AT REASONABLE PRICES.  
 ALL KINDS OF COALS SUPPLIED AT THE SHORTEST NOTICE. Hongkong, 25th March 1891.

**JUST ARRIVED, FOR SALE.**  
**THE New Stern Winder and Enamelled Dial WATERBURY WATCH.**  
 SERIES I.—For Gentlemen, or large size.  
 SERIES L.—For Ladies, or small size.  
 Wind in less than a dozen turns; Jewelled, Dust-proof, Keyless, with all the latest improvements. A perfect and unrivalled timekeeper; reliable, durable and accurate, and also  
 SERIES E.—The "Good old favorite." The best form of the original Waterbury: offered at the reduced price of \$8.70 each. Orders from Out-ports to be accompanied by remittance for cost.  
**THE MITSUBI BUSSAN KAISHA,**  
 Sole Agents in Japan, China, Corea, Hongkong & Macao.  
 No. 10, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.  
 Hongkong, 26th February, 1890.

**CHS. J. GAUPP & CO.**  
**CHRONOMETER, WATCH, and CLOCK-MAKERS, JEWELLERS, SILVER-SMITHS, and OPTICIANS.**  
**CHARTS and BOOKS.**  
 Sole Agents for Louis Audemars' Watches; awarded the highest Prize at every Exhibition; and for Votier and Sohn's CELEBRATED OPERA GLASSES. MARINE GLASSES and SPYGLASSES. No. 1, Queen's Road Central.  
 CARBOLINUM AVENARIUS, (REGISTERED).  
 AN ANTISEPTIC PAINT for the Preservation of Wood, Walls, Ropes and Ship's Tackle. May be applied to Beams, Floors, Walls, ceilings, Wooden Ornament, Eaves, Roofs, Wooden Sheds, Farmers' and Gardeners' Implements, Carts, Posts, Fences, Stables, Gates, Bridges, Boats, and all timber underground. Effectually excludes all dampness from walls painted with it and entirely prevents the crumbling away and decay of both stone and bricks. White ants do not touch wood painted with Carbolinum Avenarius.  
 Used during the last 14 years with the utmost success, as proved by numerous Testimonials from living authorities.  
 Sold in casks of about 450 lbs. net. Price 8 cents per lb.  
 For further particulars apply to  
**SCHWABE & Co.,**  
 Sole Agents,  
 No. 16, Stanley Street.  
 Hongkong, 2nd December, 1890.

**FOX SALE.**  
**"MONTIARA"**  
 Length.....75 feet.  
 Beam.....18 "  
 Depth of hold.....7 "  
 Registered tonnage.....75 tons.  
 (Owing to recent alterations the carrying capacity of the *Montiara* has been increased to about 120 tons, dead weight.)  
 The *Montiara* was built in Singapore, and is most solidly constructed of teak throughout, with iron-wood frames. She has recently been thoroughly overhauled under experienced European superintendence, fastened throughout with 7 inch galvanized spikes, and newly re-coppered. She is larch-rigged with the best canvas sails. Draft of water 7 feet.  
 For further particulars apply to  
**R. FRASER-SMITH,**  
 6, Pedder's Hill.  
 Hongkong, 6th April, 1891.

**FOR SALE.**  
**THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY** Published at the Office of the *Hongkong Telegraph*, is the best and most complete work of the kind ever published in the FAR EAST.



# The Hongkong Telegraph.

No. 2819.

THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 1891.

SIX DOLLARS PER QUARTER

## The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 1891.

### LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE U. S. S. *Palas* arrived at Nagasaki, and the *Monocacy* at Yokohama, on the 2nd inst. The *Alliance* was then expected to leave the latter port shortly for Chemulpo.

MR. H. KOECH assumed charge of the Statistical Department of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs on the 1st inst. *vice* Mr. E. McKean, who goes home on leave of absence.

MR. F. W. MALLARD, hon. treasurer of the Alliance Memorial Hospital, begs to acknowledge that the following donations to the funds of the hospital—H. Z. Jui, Esq., \$25; Lum Ping Won, \$3.

WE understand that the arrangements for commencing work on the Kowloon-Canton railway are approaching completion, Mr. J. Sampson being first on the list for the post of superintendent-in-charge.

THE eight-armed race between the Club and the Army and Navy, arranged to take place on the 6th inst., fell through owing to the Services being unable to get a crew together. There have been some ill-natured comments, as usual in such cases.

WE learn that at the present time there is a total dearth of sailors in the Colony—a state of things that has not been known to exist for many years. The American ship *Great Admiral* has been delayed for some days owing to the captain's inability to complete his crew.

COLONEL JOHN G. LEE, late Military Instructor of the Royal Korean Army, and Captain A. d'Amade, Military attaché to the French Legation in Seoul (Korea), were amongst the passengers who left here for Europe by the Messageries Maritimes steamer *Salasia* at noon on the 8th inst.

H.M.S. *Tanar* left on the 11th inst. for England, taking home the paid-off crews of H.M.S. *Imperieuse*, *Vindicta*, and *Porpoise*. As she made her way through the man-of-war anchorage, the crews of the various other ships manned their yards and cheered their departing comrades heartily.

CONSEQUENT on the retirement of Inspector Perry from the Hongkong Police Force, the following promotions have been made—3rd class Inspector Stanton to be 2nd class Inspector, *vice* Inspector Perry; Acting Inspector Butler to be 3rd class Inspector; Sergeant Mann to be Acting Inspector.

THE omission of a word frequently upsets the symmetry of a sentence and renders its meaning obscure. So it was in a para. in our issue of the 7th inst. in which Sir James Russell was described as "of Opium notoriety." Of course it should have read Opium Convention authority, that cowardly surrender of Hongkong's rights which obtained for Mr. Russell his C.M.G. ship, and made this colony an appendage of the Chinese Customs.

THE British gun-vessel *Rattler* arrived at Chinkiang on the night of the 2nd inst. The German frigate *Leipzig* got ashore yesterday week between the Wooning light-house and the Wooning Spit Buoy, and was towed off by the *Fukien*. The German gunboat *Willy* also grounded below Farnham's lower dock and did not get off till next morning. Since then the *Leipzig*, *Alexandrina*, and *Sophia* proceeded to Nanking.

At the meeting of the Punjom Company on the 8th inst. the reporters were desired to give the concern "bold (and gratuitous) advertisement" to the effect that some very comforting reports had been received from the prospectors, Mr. Blaney, and could be seen by the shareholders. A Singapore correspondent reports that the water which had over-powered the pumps at falls last month has again been mastered by the addition of more boiler power to the engine, and the 100 ft. level was dry on the 14th, when work was to be recommenced to supply water for milling.

THE *Japan Gazette* is given to understand that several prominent firms at Hankow are compelled to cut off the electric light in their business houses which has been installed by Japanese, insurance having been refused on account of the defective nature of the installation. Whilst on the subject we may state that the system in lighting in Hongkong promises to be even more satisfactory shortly, as the strength of the current will be greatly increased when the erection of a few more lamps justifies the additional use of the reserve dynamo.

THE *Carverlych* doesn't own all the jewelry in the Far East. At the Central Station on the 21st inst. Police Constable James was presented with a gold chain and locket on the eve of his retirement from the Hongkong Police Force, after ten years' service. Inspector Stanton, in making the presentation, said that it was a mark of the esteem in which Mr. James was held by his brethren. It was not many members who lived to retire on a pension, Mr. James being the only one left of twelve men who came to the Colony ten years ago. Mr. James briefly returned thanks for their kind presentation and good wishes in appropriate terms.

IT may comfort the official members of the Legislative Council to know what our sister colony thinks of their attitude in respect to the Military Contribution—*they have heard our opinion already.* The *Singapore Free Press* says that they (the Hongkong officials) have been "servile," and the whole pack of them have gone submissively to heel at the crack of the Governor's whip. Our correspondent adds the little epithet, such as "obsequious harp," which means "betrayers of the sale," but we can pass them. "Servile" is good, though we shall thank the colleagues, for the word. Henceforth the C.S. be known as the "Servile Service."

ONE day recently while H.E. Fu Kuo, a member of the Tung-shi Yamen, was on his way to the Imperial Palace for an audience, he saw several suspicious characters on the top of the wall of the Imperial city, and availing that they were thieves, he gave orders that they should be arrested. The police were soon upon the spot, but the interlopers had gone to their unknown; the night after a gang of armed robbers entered H.E. Fu Kuo's private residence and bound H.E. and pointing a loaded gun at his face told him to recognize their faces with a gun. He did not intend to see them again, then some of the gang looted the premises and took a silver signal bell. The place of the stolen property has been recovered from several of the gangsters; but no arrests have been made so far.

THE *Choya Shimbun* of the 26th ultimo publishes a telegram from its Chemulpo correspondent to the effect that the Russian Government has addressed a despatch to the Korean Government relative to the objectionable practice of Japanese, Chinese and American men-of-war mooring in the inside harbour at Chemulpo, which should, the Japanese paper considers, be reserved for the convenience of merchant vessels only.

SIR RICHARD REYNOLDS, late Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of China and Japan, and Mr. Fielding Clarke, our Peking Judge, were amongst the passengers by the French mail steamer *Salasia*, which sailed hence for Europe at noon on the 8th inst. The Attorney-General, Mr. W. M. Goodman; Mr. Clarke's *locum tenens*, Mr. E. J. Ackroyd; and a large number of legal and other lights went off during the forenoon to bid the *days of the Far Eastern Bar bon voyage*.

THE Tongku pirates have a considerable weakness for the gentler sex—their motto is *Cherchez la femme*. A band of them were surprised by French troops the other day whilst escorting a batch of sixty-seven native women over the Chinese frontier, and eight of the kidnappers were killed. The Hanou papers allege that the Chinese authorities connive at the wholesale capture of native women, so making of supplying the numerous pirate bands with arms, opium, money, &c. Quite likely.

MESSRS. BUNDAL & Co.'s circular, dated Newburgh, 28th February, says:—Imports.—Drills, sheetings, shirtings, T-cloths, cotton yarn, raw cotton, sugar, matches, horse-shoes, bar and rod iron, are in small stock, and it is likely that first arrivals will meet with a ready sale. Exports.—Stocks of bean-oil amount to 250,000 piculs; of grain to about 1,000,000 piculs, of beans to about 200,000 piculs. Prices of commodities are generally in advance much, as it is now certain that last autumn's crops were even larger than those of 1889.

IF it were not too late to boom up Borneo we might draw the attention of a few friends at Court (of Directors) to the fact that advices from Holland point to a good year for several of the tobacco-growing companies doing business in Dell. Their forecasts for the year are expected to reach the following figures:—Arendburg, 125 per cent. Dell Co., 100 per cent. Dell Batavia Co., 62 per cent. &c. &c. But now that matters in Dell are becoming better known in Holland, the rage for starting new companies in that Settlement has calmed down, and speculators with land concessions in their pockets find scant encouragement. Capitalists prefer to wait and see how the next crops turn out, before sinking any more money in the East Coast of Sumatra.

SAVES THE *N. C. Daily News*:—At about 114 miles from Shanghai up the Yangtze there is a cut-off extending from opposite Fiehuoune Light to a little above Siniemou Creek. This cut-off appears in the charts, but it is stated on the ground that there are rocks in it. Recently Mr. G. McHale, instructed by Mr. Macle to survey the locality and has done so, and on the last trip, he went through it and, going slow, gained an hour on the run to Chinkiang. The *Sual* is thus the first vessel to go through the Shyauy Cut-off. Steamers will not require to use it coming down river, but going up they will get out of the current, saving thus a couple of hours, and will be able to reach Chinkiang in time to save their taking out night permits.

A CURIOUS case was heard by the Magistrate at Peking the other day. An Indian watchman was prosecuted by a transway inspector for defamation of character, which (the *Gazette* says) was alleged to consist in an accusation made by the defendant that the prosecutor, who is a high caste Brahmin, had been in the habit of taking his meals in his employer's house. In consequence of this, it was stated for the prosecution that one Jemal Tooleman, a shopkeeper in Beach Street, would not permit the prosecutor to help himself to ten or twelve of his loaves in his shop, as he had been accustomed to do before; in short he was treated as an outcast. Mr. Gurney, who appeared for the defendant, admitted that his client had made the accusation, but said it was true. After hearing the evidence on both sides, Mr. Watson found the defendant guilty of the charge, and sentenced him to pay a fine of \$100 or, in default of payment, to undergo three months' imprisonment.

IF we may venture for once to put our faith in prices, there was some significance in the *Carverlych's* movements whilst at Canton. Renter wired on the 30th ult. that the Russian ambassador at Paris had received the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honor (which we wouldn't swap our own Order of Sedgwick) in return for the despatch by the *Czar* to President Carnot of the Order of St. Andrew. That looks as though France and Russia were willing to use the same small-coin metal, especially when we hear *Carverlych's* suit took tea at the French Consulate, and that M. Imbault-Huot died with His Highness's obituary. The fate of nations may have been decided over that cup of coffee—perhaps the downfall of perdition. Albion was arranged over the candle-and-vodka banquet. "Observer" writes to-day (9th inst.) that at 4.45 yesterday morning he noticed a unique star shining brightly in the sky, and not another to be seen in the clear black sky. He says it means war, but we can't follow him so far unless he sends an affidavit along declaring that the second star belonged to Uria Major.

THE "Articulate Needs of China" according to Chinese people of Mr. C. D. Tenney of Tennessee.

1. Schools of modern science should be established all over the Empire.

2. Civil degrees should be given for proficiency in modern sciences, and not merely for clever essay writing.

3. Military officers should be educated men.

4. Buddhism should be suppressed, and the temples turned into schools.

5. Confucius should be educated and foot-binding should be abolished so that they may become both mentally and physically fit for maternity.

6. Rail-roads should be extended.

7. The Emperor should be educated in a foreign language.

8. The Emperor should travel about the country, and see for himself the condition of affairs.

9. China should have a parliament where questions of public policy might be openly discussed.

10. Chinese law should be modified to bring it into harmony with Western codes.

These views says Mr. Tenney, vary in value, but the fact that such ideas are entertained by the rising generation speaks well for the future, and is only a question of time when the young blood of China will drive the conservative party off the wall.

H.M.S. *Rattler* left Shanghai for Hankow on the 2nd inst., and is expected to be absent about five weeks.

"SHAKESPEARE" is said by theatrical managers (excepting always our talented visitor Mr. Miln) to spell "Punjom." Similarly "Punjom" is pronounced "m-a-d-i-n-e-s-s." If the stock quotations for the last couple of years are anything to go by, it is native to the soil, it seems—maybe Dr. Cantile could find the particular *baillus* which is in blame—for a correspondent of the *Singapore Free Press* writes that "Inche Wan Finger, the son of the mad Toh Hady who was at Karsa Lieh about two years ago, has also become afflicted with the family mania, and commenced by killing his wife. A panic amongst the Malays was the consequence in the northern part of the Punjom concession; this has since subsided."

IT has always seemed to us to be an act savouring of folly, says the *Japan Mail*, for the Government at Hongkong to have broken up their mint, and sold the coinage presses and other machinery to the Japanese. Plenty of work could have surely been found for it, whilst if the profit had made any sort of approximation to what the Government annually reaps here, it would have realised an appreciable amount of additional revenue. A sum of two or three hundred thousand yen per annum over the mint's expenses is secured by the working of the mint as Osaka, which turns out coins of a most creditable character. Compare a silver yen, for instance, with that most slovenly minted and heartily looking coin, the Mexican dollar, and the contrast is entirely favorable to Japan, and though no foreigners are now employed, yet so well schooled were the employees of the Mint by their foreign instructors, that in point of execution and general finish, the coinage of Japan continues a credit to the country.

ACCORDING to the native papers Fu-ming and Lok-Kur districts, Yunnan Province, have been the scene of a lively fight between the Imperial troops and the secret society. That on the 17th inst. moon the Fuming District Magistrate had gone to another place to try and investigate a murder case of importance, so a noted leader, Wong-tze-yung, and some secret society men, gathered a great many of them together and marched upon the Fu-ming-yuen, and having over-powered the Police, officials, and in fact killed the chief of the police, the society men, as they have been termed rebels, went in a body to the Magistrate's yamen and demolished it; first having taken all the treasure and valuables, then the rebels to the yamen, and having taken the same intent, but before they had time to do so, the commander of the province came down upon the marauders with a strong Government force and defeated the rebels. The leader Wong-tze-yung, in conjunction with another rebel leader, out-fought the Imperialists and fell upon another town, but that place was strongly defended, so the rebels suffered a second check. Then they went to Lok-kur-yuen and there killed the city Magistrate and every one who opposed them. The Imperial soldiers who went in to pursue found the rebels in the latter place and again gave them battle. During the fight the leader Wong-tze-yung was killed and also another leader, but the Government troops managed to take the leader's brother, Wong-tze-fu, a captive, and a great many were slaughtered by the soldiers. The rest of the rebels fled to all parts in haste. On both sides the killed and wounded were considerable. Within three days after the disturbance the place was restored to quietness, and an Imperial Decree has been issued to reward those who rendered such help as to merit promotion. Rewards are offered for the capture of any of the rebels who have escaped.

### MEETING OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on the 10th inst. There were present: Mr. W. M. Deane, C.M.G., (Acting Colonial Secretary); Mr. W. Goodman (Attorney-General); Mr. G. M. Mitchell-Innes (Colonial Treasurer); Mr. J. H. Stewart-Lockhart (Registrar-General); Mr. S. Brown (Surveyor-General); Messrs. P. Ryrie, T. H. Whitehead, Ho Kai, and J. J. Keswick, (unofficial members), and Mr. A. M. Thomson, Clerk of Council.

The Acting Colonial Secretary announced that His Excellency the Governor was too much indisposed to be with them, and consequently he would preside.

THE minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

REPORTS, &c. The President laid on the table despatches relating to prison accommodation, the Postmaster-General's report for 1890, report on the Government Central School for Girls, report of the Acting Head Master of the Victoria College, report of the Superintendent of Victoria Gaol for 1890, and the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon's report for 1890.

THE CROWN AGENTS. The President, some months ago, a hon. member asked the following question:—"Will the Government lay on the table a statement showing the cost in Hongkong currency dollars of all articles, goods, and stores purchased and forwarded to Hongkong by the Crown Agents for use in connection with the various public works during 1890, the cost laid down to include all commissions, shipping and other charges?" The information having now come to hand it is laid on the table, and any hon. member is at liberty to lay it for perusal on application to the Clerk of Council, and if after perusal it is considered that it is a document of a nature which should be printed it will be open to any hon. member to move that it be printed.

### AN OFFICIAL SUBTERFUGE.

MR. RYRIE—I beg to give notice that at the next meeting of Council I intend to ask the President if, when he asked me at the meeting of Council on 25th March last if the protest I then laid on the table was a perfectly respectful protest, he meant to imply that I was likely to present, or the unofficial members to consent, to a protest which was not a perfectly respectful protest as his Excellency is not present I had better let it stand over for the present.

THE President—I think as his Excellency the Governor is not present it had better be withdrawn, because an hon. member can always put a question by giving a certain number of days' notice. I think, however, if I may be allowed to say so, if the hon. member will refer to Sir Erskine May's "Parliamentary Practice," the will see that the only reason for which a protest is not received is that it is not respectful, and his Excellency not having had an opportunity of seeing the protest beforehand was merely, as I take it, making allusion to the only ground on which such a protest could not be received.

MR. RYRIE—It is unusual to make such a remark. I have presented a good many protests in my time and I know it is not usual.

THE President—I think that if you will look at May's "Parliamentary Practice" you will see that almost the sole ground on which a protest is not received is that it contains something disrespectful, and his Excellency not having had an opportunity of reading the protest before he laid it on the table, he was merely, as I take it, making allusion to the only ground on which such a protest could not be received.

MR. RYRIE—It was a remark which I think I have never heard before, at all events.

THE President—Of course this is rather apart from the main business, but I think you will find that is the explanation—that the sole objection to receiving such a protest is on the ground that it contains some word or phrase that is not in accord with parliamentary usage.

MR. RYRIE—Well, I think it is a question that had better be left over until his Excellency is present.

THE President—I think so, and you might look up May's "Parliamentary Practice" in the meantime.

MR. RYRIE—I have another question. I beg to give notice that at next meeting of Council, I intend to ask the Colonial Treasurer if the arrears of the military contribution for the year 1890, payment of which was authorised by this Council on the 10th March last, has been paid, and if paid, on what date, or dates, if any, portion of it was paid, and if so upon what authority?

MR. WHITEHEAD—I rise to ask the questions of which I have just asked the meeting of Council and also the other questions included in the *agenda*.

THE questions were as follows:—

1.—What was the total expenditure of the Government under the head of salaries for the years 1887, 1888, 1889, and 1890, and what is the estimated total expenditure for the current year under the same heading, on the basis of the increased pay and allowances recommended by this Council?

2.—What was the total expenditure on the Public Works Department in the years 1887, 1888, 1889, and 1890, for salaries and wages, and what is the estimated expenditure under the same heading for the current year on the Public Works Department? and "Water and Drainage Department combined?"

3.—How is it that there has been no meeting of the Public Works Committee appointed in October last?

4.—Does the Government intend to give effect to the recommendation of the unofficial members in their *addendum* of the 20th December, 1890, to submit to the Public Works Committee for decision of the Council the following resolutions:—

5.—What arrangements have been made for examining and checking accounts sent to the Treasury for payment, and have any difficulties arisen, since the new system of audit was introduced, in checking and examining accounts for payment?

6.—What are the duties of the Treasury Department and the Treasurer, under the new organization of that department?

7.—Can his Excellency the Governor inform the Council whether the Audit system recently introduced in Hongkong is in force in Singapore, Ceylon, or any other Crown Colony, and if so, for what special reasons has it been introduced in this Colony?

8.—Will the Government lay on the table a statement showing the present position of the Lighthouse Works on Gap Rock, the amounts actually expended to the 31st March last, and the sums then due although not actually paid, and an estimate of the monies still required to complete the work?

9.—Will the Government lay on the table a statement showing the actual cost to date of the first six months' expenditure for wages and running expenses, interest, &c.; the number of trips she has made to the Gap Rock, and the cost per trip to and from the Gap Rock?

10.—Have the plans for the construction of the sea-wall of the Praya Reclamation, as designed by the late Surveyor-General, and approved by Sir John Coode, been altered in any respect since the commencement of the work?

11.—If they have been altered in any respect, what is the nature of the alterations? What additional expense (if any) does it entail, beyond the sum mentioned in the *Government Gazette* of the 6th July, 1889?

12.—With reference to Government Notification No. 139 of the 28th March, 1891, from which it appears that there are various cases of default in the performance of Covenants entered into on the purchase of Crown Lands, will Government lay on the table a detailed list of the Lands referred to in that Notification, specifying as regards each lot, the date of sale, the name of the purchaser, the name of the lot, the area, the premium, the annual Crown rent, and the nature of the covenant unperformed?

THE President—In reply to the hon. member I may state that the answers to questions 8 and 9 have been printed and circulated. The reply to No. 3, which must really be read with No. 4, is that no new works have been begun which have not been provided for in the estimates, and it has therefore not been necessary to call together the Public Works Committee. With regard to No. 10, his Excellency the Governor can give no pledge on this subject which will bind his successors, but recognising the unsatisfactory nature of the system hitherto prevailing, his Excellency intends for the present, by way of experiment, to lay before the Public Works Committee detailed plans and estimates of all works estimated to cost \$3,000 and upwards previous to asking a vote for the same in the Legislative Council. The Governor also intends to lay before the Committee when he receives them, the details of estimates for important works, such as the Central Market, though the vote for the same has already been allowed. With reference to question 5, the examination and checking of accounts have been dealt with according to the Model Instructions, which are being supplemented and amended by Financial Instructions, which will be very shortly approved. The Colonial Treasurer reports that he will recommend an increase of salaries of the Public Works Committee, and will satisfactorily undertake the duties with regard to the examining and checking of accounts. When that addition is made the Colonial Treasurer sees no difficulty in carrying out the work efficiently. With regard to the sixth question, the duties of the Treasury Department and the Treasurer are described in the Instructions I have already quoted. [The President read the Instructions.] With reference to the seventh question, the first of the hon. member's queries is that the Governor has no knowledge that the audit system recently introduced in Hongkong is in force in Singapore, or Ceylon, but has information that it is in force in Lagos and St. Lucia. As to the latter part of the question the special reasons for its being instituted in this Colony are stated in a paper laid before the Council on 10th November, 1890, a copy of which will be of the disposal of the hon. member.

If he will apply to the Clerk of Councils. I must state that the hon. member to excuse replies to questions 8, 9, 10, and 11 for the present, as they deal with matters of detail and scarcely sufficient notice has been given to permit of the necessary information being compiled. With regard to question No. 12 having reference to the Government notification as to the performance of covenants in connection with the purchase of Crown land, his Excellency the Governor regrets that he does not see his way to supply the information to the hon. member.

### THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE.

THE President—It has been brought to the notice of his Excellency the Governor that there is a vacancy on the Public Works Committee owing to the absence of the Mr. C. P. Chatter. I have therefore by direction of his Excellency to move that the Dr. Ho Kai be appointed in his place.

THE Attorney-General seconded, and it was carried.

### THE MILITARY CONTRIBUTION.

#### THE UNOFFICIALS SWAMPED AGAIN.

MR. WHITEHEAD rose to move the following resolution:—"That in consequence of the enhanced military contribution still demanded by the Imperial Government, this Colony is not in a position to pay the increased salaries recently recommended by the Unofficial Members and that the Secretary of State be requested by telegram to withhold his sanction." In doing so he said:—I have to thank his Excellency for according to my request for the postponement of the discussion of this motion. It was not asked for because of any doubt or uncertainty in my mind as to the facts and figures on which the resolution was deliberately based, or because of any hesitation as to the wisdom and propriety of the position taken up. I asked for an adjournment that the figures might be officially before the Council and the public, in such form that the correctness of my statements might not be questioned. I shall endeavour to satisfy hon. members that the position is not untenable, that the motion has not been the outcome of any sudden impulse, or of anything worse, and that in the result, it will strengthen not weaken, as his Excellency seems to think, the hands of the unofficial members in their protest, their most respectful and moderately worded protest against the enhanced Military Contribution. This resolution will have the further advantage, whether intended or not of giving his Excellency, and the hon. the official members of this Council, a legitimate opportunity of discussing the general financial situation, and of demonstrating, if it is possible to do so, the ability of the Colony to bear the heavier burdens than those now imposed upon it. His Excellency has twice refused to discuss this question, during the course of our recent debates on the Revote of the Military Contribution for 1890. I hope you will not find them backward now, but I adhere to the opinion that such discussion was out of place on the question of the Revote. I cannot agree with his Excellency in his assertion that the demand of the Imperial Government for the payment of the extra \$200,000 was based upon new and general grounds. His statement is not borne out by the Secretary of State's telegram and despatch of the 15th February last. Lord Knutsford simply demands payment of money already voted but unpaid. The Honourable the Colonial Secretary, the Honourable the Captain Superintendent of Police, and the Honourable the Attorney-General, each and all have declared that it was simply and solely a Revote, nothing more and nothing less than a revote. It may be correct to say that this year's enhanced Military Contribution has been asked for on other grounds than the promise to increase of the salary of the Military Contribution. I may be of opinion that in this year, or perhaps the next, the Colony is in a position, without grievous loss or hurt, to bear the double burden, and yet be of opinion that the Colony will not in the near future be able to support the present increased army of officials at the higher rates of pay. From the official statement laid before the Council to-day it appears that salaries for 1891 will aggregate \$758,139, as compared with \$655,231 for 1890, and \$477,656 for 1889. I do not think we can do without the successive *Adels* as we see its way not merely to pay these salaries this year and next, but for several years to come, it would be unjust and unfair to colonists and officials alike to grant an increase of salaries that three or four years hence may have to be reduced to their present or even to a lower level. The question for debate now is not, "Is the Colony able to pay these increased salaries this year or next?" but are our prospects in the near future such as to enable us to well as well as to continue to pay these enhanced rates of salary permanently? We are not giving a bonus out of the realized profits of a few good years to our official servants, but we are binding the Colony to pay these increased rates for years to come. We may vote the military contribution this year, and contemplate the probability that next year we shall be unable to pay it. We cannot deal that way with the question of salaries. We bind the Colony for years to come. These salaries cannot be reduced without the greatest injustice, and except under the pressure of the most urgent necessity. There are two points for consideration: the propriety of the proposed increase of salaries, and our ability to pay and to continue to pay this increase. The unofficial members have cordially recognised the propriety and justice of an increase of salaries. It was on their recommendation it was authorized, they are not wavering on that point, but on second thoughts they begin to doubt the ability of the Colony to pay the increased salaries for a course of years, and the wisdom of granting them, if in a few years they may have to be reduced. I am of opinion that the officers of the Government have fair grounds for asking for an increase of salaries, if the Colony can afford to pay such increase, but I think the Council ought to be satisfied not only that it is able to pay them this year and next, but for some years to come. From the latest official information furnished to the Council there is an estimated deficit of about \$120,000 in our finances at the end of this current year. Therefore I do not see how we can honestly pay the heavy increase in salaries even this year. I see no prospect in the near future of wiping out that deficit. It seems to me that it must increase. It was in the early part of 1889, I think, that this question of an increase in salaries took form, and that a Committee was appointed by his Excellency to investigate and report on it. What was the position of this Colony or rather our estimate of

its position and prospects, when this question of salaries was first mooted? It is set forth in his Excellency's brilliant despatch of 31st October, 1889, to the Right Hon. the Secretary of State, Lord Knutsford. His Excellency in that despatch was able to refer to the great wealth of the colony; to the 39 millions of dollars of deposits in the local European and Chinese banks; to the market value of all registered Companies in Hongkong; 63 million dollars and over; and to the enormous rise in the value of land, Marine lots having advanced 50 per cent., and inland lots 15 to 20 per cent.; also to the 35 new joint stock Companies formed since 1st January, 1888, with capital then paid up aggregating over 2 millions of dollars for land investment, manufacture, and trade in Hongkong, and for mining and planting enterprises in the Malay Peninsula, Borneo and Tonquin. His Excellency was then able to express strong hopes as to the success of nearly all these new Companies, and to the certainty of a further great increase in the value of land in Hongkong leading to a great enhancement of revenue from land sales, Crown rents, and an increased volume of taxation. His Excellency was further able to point to a vast commerce in a healthy state of progress, with prosperity extraordinary and prospects magnificent. I have almost quoted his Excellency's own words. "What is the state of the colony to-day? His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government in his official minute—the latest information furnished to this Council—estimates a deficiency of about \$100,000 in our finances at the end of the current year. The 39 millions of dollars of deposits in the local Banks have enormously decreased—yes, by millions of dollars—and I say so without fear of contradiction. A large amount of the money has hopelessly gone and been lost for ever, called for to save a comparatively small portion which may or may not be redeemable from total loss. Mining ventures in the Malay Peninsula, tobacco plantations in Borneo, and a number of the new local enterprises have not yet yielded any return on capital invested, while many others are a course or on the verge of liquidation. The market value-to-day of companies registered in Hongkong, and referred to in his Excellency's despatch has shrunk at the lowest estimate by a sum of ten millions of dollars. Land has fallen greatly in value, we are largely overbuilt in the city of Victoria, at the Peak, Magazine Gap, and at Kowloon—one has only to look around to realise the fact, there are scores, yes hundreds, of empty houses untenanted and yielding no return on the money so invested. The position of matters can only be aggravated by Government Notification of 28th March last, calling for the fulfilment of covenants unfulfilled upon all sales of Government land. For some years to come there will be no great land sales, no addition to our land revenue, and there must be a diminution in the assessed taxes, rents have fallen to so great an extent. The valuations of July next will prove this. About one-fourth of our total revenue is derived from the opium farm—a most unstable and most uncertain source of income in the near future. His Excellency has wisely reminded the Secretary of State that the present large profit on subsidiary silver coin must not be counted on as a permanent source of revenue. The Chinese Government have now a mint at Canton and may in time supply a large portion of the Canton and Foochow requirements from which ports the chief demand for these coins arises. Our taxes are already very high—13 per cent. on the rental sounds moderate, but is quite misleading, for rents here are about three times more than rents at home and much higher than in most places in the East. The increase in our garrison of 1,500 men—which was promised, but only exists in the imagination of the War Office, though we have all the years to come there will be no great land sales, no addition to our land revenue, and there must be a diminution in the assessed taxes, rents have fallen to so great an extent. The valuations of July next will prove this. About one-fourth of our total revenue is derived from the opium farm—a most unstable and most uncertain source of income in the near future. His Excellency has wisely reminded the Secretary of State that the present large profit on subsidiary silver coin must not be counted on as a permanent source of revenue. The Chinese Government have now a mint at Canton and may in time supply a large portion of the Canton and Foochow requirements from which ports the chief demand for these coins arises. Our taxes are already very high—13 per cent. on the rental sounds moderate, but is quite misleading, for rents here are about three times more than rents at home and much higher than in most places in the East. The increase in our garrison of 1,500 men—which was promised, but only exists in the imagination of the War Office, though we have all the years to come there will be no great land sales, no addition to our land revenue, and there must be a diminution in the assessed taxes, rents have fallen to so great an extent. The valuations of July next will prove this. About one-fourth of our total revenue is derived from the opium farm—a most unstable and most uncertain source of income in the near future. His Excellency has wisely reminded the Secretary of State that the present large profit on subsidiary silver coin must not be counted on as a permanent source of revenue. The Chinese Government have now a mint at Canton and may in time supply a large portion of the Canton and Foochow requirements from which ports the chief demand for these coins arises. Our taxes are already very high—13 per cent. on the rental sounds moderate, but is quite misleading, for rents here are about three times more than rents at home and much higher than in most places in the East. The increase in our garrison of 1,500 men—which was promised, but only exists in the imagination of the War Office, though we have all the years to come there will be no great land sales, no addition to our land revenue, and there must be a diminution in the assessed taxes, rents have fallen to so great an extent. The valuations of July next will prove this. About one-fourth of our total revenue is derived from the opium farm—a most unstable and most uncertain source of income in the near future. His Excellency has wisely reminded the Secretary of State that the present large profit on subsidiary silver coin must not be counted on as a permanent source of revenue. The Chinese Government have now a mint at Canton and may in time supply a large portion of the Canton and Foochow requirements from which ports the chief demand for these coins arises. Our taxes are already very high—13 per cent. on the rental sounds moderate, but is quite misleading, for rents here are about three times more than rents at home and much higher than in most places in the East. The increase in our garrison of 1,500 men—which was promised, but only exists in the imagination of the War Office, though we have all the years to come there will be no great land sales, no addition to our land revenue, and there must be a diminution in the assessed taxes, rents have fallen to so great an extent. The valuations of July next will prove this. About one-fourth of our total revenue is derived from the opium farm—a most unstable and most uncertain source of income in the near future. His Excellency has wisely reminded the Secretary of State that the present large profit on subsidiary silver coin must not be counted on as a permanent source of revenue. The Chinese Government have now a mint at Canton and may in time supply a large portion of the Canton and Foochow requirements from which ports the chief demand for these coins arises. Our taxes are already very high—13 per cent. on the rental sounds moderate, but is quite misleading, for rents here are about three times more than rents at home and much higher than in most places in the East. The increase in our garrison of 1,500 men—which was promised, but only exists in the imagination of the War Office, though we have all the years to come there will be no great land sales, no addition to our land revenue, and there must be a diminution in the assessed taxes, rents have fallen to so great an extent. The valuations of July next will prove this. About one-fourth of our total revenue is derived from the opium farm—a most unstable and most uncertain source of income in the near future. His Excellency has wisely reminded the Secretary of State that the present large profit on subsidiary silver coin must not be counted on as a permanent source of revenue. The Chinese Government have now a mint at Canton and may in time supply a large portion of the Canton and Foochow requirements from which ports the chief demand for these coins arises. Our taxes are already very high—13 per cent. on the rental sounds moderate, but is quite misleading, for rents here are about three times more than rents at home and much higher than in most places in the East. The increase in our garrison of 1,500 men—which was promised, but only exists in the imagination of the War Office, though we have all the years to come there will be no great land sales, no addition to our land revenue, and there must be a diminution in the assessed taxes, rents have fallen to so great an extent. The valuations of July next will prove this. About one-fourth of our total revenue is derived from the opium farm—a most unstable and most uncertain source of income in the near future. His Excellency has wisely reminded the Secretary of State that the present large profit on subsidiary silver coin must not be counted on as a permanent source of revenue. The Chinese Government have now a mint at Canton and may in time supply a large portion of the Canton



Mr. Ryle—I rise to second Mr. Whitehead's resolution. He has certainly gone into the whole question in a most exhaustive manner, and I quite agree with him that with our increased expenditure we want to do a little retrenchment. It is rather an ungrateful thing to do, what is proposed in the resolution, but still we think it necessary it should be done. We have to look to our ways and means now, and these salaries cannot be paid for some time, they may be reconsidered by and by, but our ways and means are not very flourishing at present with this military contribution upon us, we have much pleasure in seconding the resolution of the hon. member on my right.

Mr. Keswick—I rise for the purpose of moving an amendment to the motion of my hon. friend Mr. Whitehead. I do so because I am unable to recognise the reason given in the resolution why the salaries should not be increased as altogether logical or correct. As I said in this Council on a former occasion, it is a very ungrateful and unpleasant task to discuss questions like this, which in some respects is personal, or at all events has a personal application, but I cannot shut my eyes to the fact that, as I mentioned in this Council in December last, a mistake has been made in the amount of the increase of salaries recommended. The amount recommended by the Committee was only \$10,000, and instead of that sum, which would have shown a very moderate percentage increase, salaries have been increased to the amount of \$5 per cent. I quite feel that it is desirable in the public interest to tackle this question without delay and recognise that a mistake has been made and ought to be remedied while there is yet time, and it is for that reason I take advantage of the opportunity now afforded me, which I did not expect to have in December. I feared the matter was then complete. I think all the unofficial members felt with myself that a right and proper increase of salaries was necessary. I feel so still. But the resolution of my hon. friend opposite reads "that in consequence of the enhanced military contribution" the colony cannot pay the increased salaries recommended. I feel that this matter calls for friendly and considerate consideration in consequence of a great many extraordinary expenses we have that we are unable to grant this increase. I suppose there never was a time in the history of the colony when the enormous demands for public works and general expenditure were so great in comparison with the shrinking revenue. I am satisfied that the revenue of the colony is declining, and it is on these grounds I consider this increase to official salaries of 5 per cent. should be reconsidered and what may be regarded as an adequate increase only given in its place. I am not in favour of the amendment, except that I do so on the grounds that the motion of the hon. member is not wide enough in its scope. I would therefore propose, sir, that the following amendment be adopted:—"That in consequence of the increase to official salaries being greatly in excess of what was contemplated by the Committee specially appointed to consider the subject, and the ever-growing Government establishments to which the increase would apply, and in view of the fact that the declining revenue of the colony will not equal to the great strain upon it for the enormous public works in progress, besides the other impending and urgent necessities of the Colony and the increased military contribution, it is desirable that the Secretary of State be asked by telegram to withhold his sanction to the proposed increase until the amount can be reconsidered."

Dr. Ho Kai—I have much pleasure in seconding the amendment of the hon. member opposite. I think the wording of the amendment is a great improvement on the wording of the resolution, although they both point to the same end and have the same meaning. I think the hon. member who moved the resolution must see that the amendment has the advantage of the original motion in that it sets forth really and truly the considerations which have influenced us in asking that the increase in the official salaries should be reconsidered. In the able speech of the hon. member who proposed the resolution it is clearly shown that the ground for moving it is not wholly the increased military contribution; in fact, the hon. member touched upon all the vital grounds on which the resolution is based, namely, the shrinking revenue of the Colony, the enormous expenditure on extraordinary public works, and many other things, and I am sure the hon. member will readily agree to the substitution of this amendment for the original resolution. I would also mention in connection with this amendment that it shows that at all events we have considered the question thoroughly and have considered all the grounds upon which the reduction in the increase to salaries has been resolved upon. It also shows we are not actuated by a retaliatory spirit just because the military contribution has been carried against us. That is not our reason, but it is really on mature consideration of the ways and means of the colony, of the probable revenue in the future, and of the expenditure.

The Attorney-General—Sir, I am endeavouring to shake off the feeling of intense depression which came over me as Mr. Whitehead drew such a terrible picture of the future of this colony, a picture so different from that drawn some two years ago by his Excellency the Governor. May we not hope that somewhere between the two lies the right amount of darkness to throw over the scene now? Can we believe the colony will be in a terrible condition as the hon. member would have us believe? For my part I take a more hopeful view of the future of this Colony. It is certainly an embarrassing position in which the official members, or most of the official members, are placed. It is certainly not a nice thing to have to discuss in public the question whether one's salary should be increased or not. One might be thought to be a biased party. I have at least one advantage, because my salary is not affected in any way by the recent recommendation of the unofficial members. Therefore I can speak without any personal feeling in this matter. Now I should like to put another view of this case. The resolution which the hon. member proposes states that the increased salaries were recently recommended. I ask, what is the difference between the prospects of this colony at the date when that recommendation was made by the unofficial members and its prospects at the present date? Was it all sunshine and brightness then, was the future so clear before us in those days, and all so dark, so sombre, and so now? What has occurred in the meantime? Why, that the unofficial members have been beaten on a vote by a small majority.

Mr. Ryle and Mr. Whitehead—No, no.

The Attorney-General—The unofficial members say by the resolution—I am speaking of the resolution, not the amendment—"That in consequence of the enhanced military contribution" the Colony is not in a position to pay the increased salaries. And the hon. member is very particular that when once a reason is given it should not be departed from. He pinned the Secretary of State down to that reason, which he gave for the enhanced military contribution, and he himself must stick to the reason he has given. The reason he gives us why the increase should be withheld is in consequence of the enhanced military contribution. If these 1,500 men alluded to some time ago by the hon. member as phantom men, as they did not appear—if these 1,500 men had arrived here would that have made any

difference, any material difference, to the revenue of this Colony? Can any hon. member honestly say I don't mean honestly, because we know they are all honest and straightforward—but can they say in their inmost minds that if these 1,500 men had arrived there would have been any objection to paying that enhanced military contribution, and if they had arrived can hon. members say in their inmost minds this resolution would ever have appeared on the paper? It seems to me that the arrival or not of these 1,500 men has nothing to do with the capacity of this colony to pay a certain sum. It seems to me that recommendation having been so recently made nothing has occurred since to justify us in making such a complete *volte face* as desired by the hon. member who moves the resolution.

Mr. Whitehead—Before replying to the remarks which have been made by the Attorney-General I am desirous, with your permission, that the amendment be substituted for the motion I made.

The President—I don't think you can quite do that, but you can express your approbation of the amendment and naturally your vote will follow the expression of your approbation.

Mr. Whitehead—Then I would say a few words in reply to the remarks which have been made. It has been stated that I have drawn a terrible picture of the position and condition of this colony. I think there is a very great deal of truth in the remarks which I made, and the future of the colony, on the authority of his Excellency the Governor, is not assured. His Excellency the Governor pointed out three causes, three most important causes, at work tending to our destruction, and his Excellency plainly stated that we were not yet in a position to determine the outcome of these causes at work. A great many changes, I think, have come over the colony since December. A number of the new companies which were supposed to have a brilliant future before them have gone into liquidation, and there are increased signs of the shrinkage of our revenue. If the 1,500 extra men promised to our garrison had arrived I can honestly say that I would still hold pretty nearly the same view that I do to-day, and that I would not have hesitated to give notice of and to move the resolution I have moved to-day. The resolution, I think, is one that is justified by the altered circumstances of the colony.

The Acting Colonial Secretary—Hon. members, as it has already been observed, this is at first sight a very delicate question for any official member to express an opinion upon, but by fortunate coincidence of circumstances I am glad to say that the salaries of the hon. official members on my left (the Attorney-General and the Surveyor-General) and the Colonial Treasurer on my right are not in any way affected by this proposed increase. Therefore the votes of these three gentlemen must be taken as perfectly impartial. I will now come to my own case. Taking the rate of exchange as it was yesterday and taking away as the recent resolution did the privilege of remitting part of my salary at 4s. 2d., I find that the net gain to me by the increase of salary will be some \$500 per year. I do not think that \$500 a year is a sum that will be considered to bias my opinion one way or the other. There only remains one member of Council who might possibly be affected (the Registrar-General), but as hon. members have already reduced his proposed salary from what was recommended by the Secretary of State to what they recommended now as a fair salary I also think his vote may be considered as fairly impartial. Now, gentlemen, turning to the question of the amendment, I find that the hon. member who proposed it states that it was the intention of the Committee to recommend an increase of 10 per cent. all round. I am afraid the hon. member has not refreshed his memory by looking at what he signed.

Mr. Keswick—I said an increase of \$10,000.

The Acting Colonial Secretary—Yes, and that is about 10 per cent. The report says (a) That the salaries of officers selected in England or holding offices which are usually filled up by officers so selected, having been originally fixed on a sterling basis when the dollar was worth 4s. 2d., should be raised to the amount in current dollars equivalent to their original sterling values. The privilege enjoyed by a few officers in this class of remitting at the par of exchange should be withdrawn and all such officers put on an equal footing. (b) "That the salaries of other officers who have suffered from the depreciation of the dollar but who as a class may be deemed to be domiciled in the east should be increased by 20 per cent." Now, gentlemen, what is the value of the dollar to-day? 3s. 2d. What is the difference in percentage between 3s. 2d. and 4s. 2d. 144 per cent. I think that for the time being, the mere fact of arithmetic, and hon. members having recommended that these salaries should be increased 20 per cent. I can scarcely believe they were not aware—because in 1889 the exchange was very low—what would be the result of their recommendation. Then there is another point, although it is not at present in the knowledge of the Council, but I think it will appear in the *Government Gazette* to-morrow night, and that is that we have received the reports of the actual expenditure and revenue of last year, and I believe that for the time being, the mere fact of arithmetic, and hon. members having recommended that these salaries should be increased 20 per cent. I can scarcely believe they were not aware—because in 1889 the exchange was very low—what would be the result of their recommendation. Then there is another point, although it is not at present in the knowledge of the Council, but I think it will appear in the *Government Gazette* to-morrow night, and that is that we have received the reports of the actual expenditure and revenue of last year, and I believe that for the time being, the mere fact of arithmetic, and hon. members having recommended that these salaries should be increased 20 per cent. I can scarcely believe they were not aware—because in 1889 the exchange was very low—what would be the result of their recommendation.

The Attorney-General—Sir, I am endeavouring to shake off the feeling of intense depression which came over me as Mr. Whitehead drew such a terrible picture of the future of this colony, a picture so different from that drawn some two years ago by his Excellency the Governor. May we not hope that somewhere between the two lies the right amount of darkness to throw over the scene now? Can we believe the colony will be in a terrible condition as the hon. member would have us believe? For my part I take a more hopeful view of the future of this Colony. It is certainly an embarrassing position in which the official members, or most of the official members, are placed. It is certainly not a nice thing to have to discuss in public the question whether one's salary should be increased or not. One might be thought to be a biased party. I have at least one advantage, because my salary is not affected in any way by the recent recommendation of the unofficial members. Therefore I can speak without any personal feeling in this matter. Now I should like to put another view of this case. The resolution which the hon. member proposes states that the increased salaries were recently recommended. I ask, what is the difference between the prospects of this colony at the date when that recommendation was made by the unofficial members and its prospects at the present date? Was it all sunshine and brightness then, was the future so clear before us in those days, and all so dark, so sombre, and so now? What has occurred in the meantime? Why, that the unofficial members have been beaten on a vote by a small majority.

Mr. Ryle and Mr. Whitehead—No, no.

The Attorney-General—The unofficial members say by the resolution—I am speaking of the resolution, not the amendment—"That in consequence of the enhanced military contribution" the Colony is not in a position to pay the increased salaries. And the hon. member is very particular that when once a reason is given it should not be departed from. He pinned the Secretary of State down to that reason, which he gave for the enhanced military contribution, and he himself must stick to the reason he has given. The reason he gives us why the increase should be withheld is in consequence of the enhanced military contribution. If these 1,500 men alluded to some time ago by the hon. member as phantom men, as they did not appear—if these 1,500 men had arrived here would that have made any

placed to the credit of new officers. Therefore the absolute difference is \$44,000. That is the net increase on salaries for this year, and hon. members may remember that when we considered this question in Finance Committee, I said the probable increase would be about \$50,000. Now, gentlemen, taking that as a fact, that the real increase in salaries is only \$44,000 and that we are called upon to pay this additional sum for military contribution, which amounts to \$114,000, I must say I should have expected the hon. member to have brought forward some exhaustive motion which would have asked this Council to make some means of making up the whole. But not a word as to that came in. Then, again, I must say I should have expected, considering the hon. member voted for the Widows and Orphans' Bill and for the Ordinance for the abolition of the Civil List, that he would at least by the motion have asked that the Government would, in addition to repealing the Appropriation Bill for 1891—for that is practically what this resolution comes to—bring forward a Bill to repeal the Ordinance cancelling the Civil List Ordinance, which was the Magna Charta of the rights of the Civil Servants of the Colony, and also a Bill to repeal the Widows and Orphans' Bill, which compels a great number of those obtaining the increase of salaries to subscribe to the fund. Then, again, the hon. member who has proposed the resolution says this question was not brought forward as a matter of impulse, and, of course, we accept his statement, but it so happens that we are enabled to fix the fact that this change of view as to salaries must have taken place some time since the 23rd February last in other words that this change of opinion—notice of this motion was given a fortnight ago—must have taken place between the 23rd February and 23rd March. Now my reasons for this statement are these: it so happens that the very same day on which this increased military contribution was brought forward for the consideration of Council, on that very same day the proposed increase to the salary of the present and future Governors of this colony was tabled and hon. members voted for that increase of salary to the present and future Governors without a word of dissent. Their objections to the military contribution were overruled. At the subsequent meeting of the Legislative Council what happened? The increase to the Governor was passed without a word and the question of the military contribution was postponed for one week, I think, and at a subsequent meeting the motion of the unofficial members against the contribution was negatived. Then appears the question as to whether the increased salaries have been paid. Then no sooner are the words out of my mouth than these increased salaries have not been paid, that the hon. member springs up and gives notice of the motion now before the Council. It seems to me that although this may not have been the action of impulse, yet seeing the very important interests concerned, affecting three Ordinances of the Colony, and the fact that all members of Council approved the increase of salary to the present and future Governors, amounting to some \$1,000, it might have been expected that we should have heard something about the general question at that time and that the vote would have been opposed. Under all the circumstances I must say I think the official members are in a sufficient position to give notice to justify the fact that the interests of the other members of the Service are not passed over on this occasion, and I think considering the hardships several of them, especially the older officers of the service have gone through in the last twenty or thirty years by seeing the purchasing value of their salaries year by year diminish, without any fault on their part or without being able in any way to check it, that every member here is perfectly justified in voting against not only the amendment but the resolution.

Mr. Ryle said with reference to the hon. J. J. Keswick, he had been absent from some meetings of the Committee appointed, but that he was able to speak for his having held only one opinion on the matter, he having expressed that opinion more than once to him.

The President said he had only referred to what appeared over the signature of the hon. member.

The Council then divided on Mr. Keswick's amendment as follows:—

FOR. AGAINST.  
Mr. Whitehead The Registrar-General  
Dr. Ho Kai The Colonial Treasurer  
Mr. Ryle The Attorney-General  
Mr. Keswick The Surveyor-General  
The President

The President—The amendment is lost.  
Mr. Ryle—And the original motion stands.  
The President—Not in this case. The Council will now divide on the original motion.  
Mr. Whitehead—I do not quite understand, I have already given my vote.

The President—A resolution was proposed and then an amendment was proposed. According to the rules of this Council the amendment is put first and the resolution afterwards. The amendment having been lost the original resolution now becomes the question before the Council. I have therefore to ask the Council to vote on the original question.

The Council then divided on the motion:—

FOR. AGAINST.  
Mr. Whitehead The Registrar-General  
Dr. Ho Kai The Colonial Treasurer  
Mr. Ryle The Attorney-General  
Mr. Keswick The Surveyor-General  
The President

The resolution was therefore lost.

FEES FOR LETTERS PATENT.  
The Attorney-General moved the first reading of a Bill to provide for the making of a table of fees to be taken in connection with the grant of Letters Patent in this Colony. He stated that in England, and in most of the colonies that he was acquainted with, a proper table of fees existed, but in this Colony there did not seem to be any special provision giving the power to make a table of fees. It might be taken that the licence would not be granted unless the fees were paid, but he thought it better that power should be given in the Council to draw up a table of fees.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded, and the Bill was read a first time.

THE GAMBLING BILL.  
The Council went into Committee on this Bill.

Dr. Ho Kai—I see by the copy of the Bill before us that a number of alterations have been made, and I think the consideration of the Bill should be adjourned until we have had time to read these alterations through. I see that the definition of a gaming house has been altered and section 3, which states under what circumstances a club may be deemed a gaming house, has also been amended. These are very important parts of the Bill and I think it would save time ultimately if we were allowed time to consider the alterations made.

The President—I think, perhaps, we might go on with certain portions of the Bill. Of course no doubt the *crux* of the Bill, so to speak, is the definition of a gaming house and section 3. I think we might go over the other clauses and leave these over.

Dr. Ho Kai—I think it would be better if the whole stood over. Speaking for myself I think definition and section 3 were satisfactorily

settled, I think probably there might be no opposition to the other clauses and we might pass them in very little time, but the whole thing appears to depend on these two questions.

The President—How long has the amended Bill been in the hands of members?

Dr. Ho Kai—We have only just seen it.

The President—Under those circumstances I have no hesitation in acceding to your request that the consideration of the Bill be postponed.

The Council then adjourned *sine die*.

## VICTORIA GAOL.

### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

The report of the Superintendent of Victoria Gaol laid on the table at the Legislative Council meeting on Friday last, was as follows:—

Hongkong, 13th January, 1891.

Sir,—I beg to forward herewith the annual statistical return of Victoria Gaol for the year 1890.

During ten months of this year the duties of Superintendent were performed by Major Dempster.

There has been a small decrease in the average number of prisoners during the year and a very large proportionate increase in the number of prison offences, but this increase is due to petty offences of which talking, short oaks picking and irregularities at short-drill are the principal. The number of serious prison offences has not increased.

The conduct of the subordinate staff during the year has been satisfactory.

PRISON BUILDINGS.

The prison buildings remain unchanged. My annual urgent recommendations for Gaol enlargement and introduction of the separate system appear to be but wearisome and useless repetitions. A recent vote of the Finance Committee of Council having decided that no money is to be spent for such purposes, it seems to be doubted by the committee whether the experience of other countries as to the deterrent effects of this system would be applicable to Chinese prisoners. The question of the reformatory facilities of the system appears not to have been considered nor has any reference been made to the monstrous evils of the present Gaol system in this colony. As far back as 1886 I brought to notice of Government a special report of the scandalous state of morality in this Gaol. An influential committee was appointed to enquire into and report on this subject in the spring of 1886, but no steps have yet been taken to improve the state of matters then reported. There were then and are now in this Gaol 95 associated cells, occupied, many of them, day and night. These are crowded to such an extent that the prisoners have on an average rather less than 200 cubic feet of air each. They sleep on the floors packed together covered by their blankets. It is impossible to prevent their conversing at night under the blankets. It is needless to speak of morality or decency. I will only observe that these prisoners are many of them day and night in a state of overcrowding which even by night alone in the city of Victoria is declared by law to be a nuisance. They breathe in about one-third less cubic space than is by law permitted for night lodging-houses. Were the Superintendent of the Gaol a lodging-house keeper he would be liable to a fine of \$50 for every one of the 95 associated cells in Victoria Gaol. (See Ordinance 24 of 1887, sections 67 to 73.) This Ordinance refers only to sanitary matters, but the moral aspect of this state of things is far graver. Victoria Gaol is, in my opinion, simply a school of vice and crime. The unfortunate man, previously not a criminal, who finds his way to Gaol, perhaps for a breach of opium laws, a street fight or any other petty offence runs a risk of contamination which it is difficult to escape; many emerge well instructed in crime. The evil influence extends beyond the Gaol; they promise to visit the friends of their prison comrades and are not improved by the contact. It is true indeed that every effort is made to avoid contamination by keeping different classes apart from men, and offenders from first offenders, &c., but this is of little use. In a cell full of 8 or 9 new offenders, it must often happen that one or more, though new offenders as regards this Gaol are old criminals from other places who devote themselves to corrupting the more innocent. Hongkong is well known to be full of burglars, thieves and criminals of every description, many of whom are associated in Triad Societies. I am aware that at one time (and probably now) upwards of one hundred members of the Triad Society were in Gaol and recruits to this society were largely obtained from discharged prisoners. The present associated system of this Gaol lends extraordinary facilities to the extension of these criminal organizations, and whatever money may be saved to the public refusing to build the Gaol accommodation which health, decency and criminal reform require will probably have to be paid in increased Police expenses and increased insecurity to life and property in the colony and neighbouring waters. The Chinese prisoners in this Gaol while exposed to all these evil influences have on the other hand nothing done for their improvement. The little that is done to the benefit of some of the confirmed criminals honest trades. This cannot be done for all; there is no space for proper workshops. The bulk of the prisoners have to be employed in the monotonous and profitless labour of shot and stone carrying, varied by oakum picking. Nothing is done to expand or elevate their minds; no tuition of any sort is provided; no one is appointed to visit them and encourage them with kindly words of human sympathy. A native missionary indeed preaches in Chinese on Sundays in the yard—this is all.

With such a state of matters would it not appear to be the duty of the colony to preserve the health, decency and morality of the inmates, to save them from the fatal and corrupting influence of the worst criminals, and to give a reasonable prospect of weaning them from crime and teaching them self-respect and industry.

PRISONERS AND THEIR DISCIPLINE.

During the year there have been 11,756 prison offences to an average of 565, giving 146 offences for each prisoner. The great proportion of prison offences are committed by short sentence prisoners. Prisoners entitled to earn remission are generally careful to avoid prison offences. On the last day of the year, of 287 prisoners sentenced to 6 months' imprisonment, or over, 95 have been clear of punishment for more than three months, and of these 13 had been clear for upwards of a year.

I append, as usual, returns showing the number of the offences committed by prisoners by prison, similar returns for the last three years being shown alongside for the sake of comparison.

There has been a decrease in the industrial earnings during the year owing chiefly to increased cost of paper stuff for oakum picking, but industrial work is greatly hampered by absolute want of space. The usual returns are appended.—I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient servant.

A. GORDON,  
Superintendent.

The Hon. Francis Fleming, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary.

INCREASED GAOL ACCOMMODATION.

The following despatch by the Secretary of State was laid on the table at the same meeting:—

Downing Street,  
21st November, 1890.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 333 of the 16th of September submitting, with your own comments, a report by the Surveyor-General upon the best mode of increasing and improving the prison accommodation of the colony.

Three alternative plans are suggested by Mr. Brown, and are considered in your despatch, viz.: additions to and modifications of the present building, the construction of one new block on another site, and the construction of a whole prison on a new site.

You incline to the first plan as most likely to be in harmony with the wishes of the community, and I wish I could bring myself to sanction it if only for the reason that the delay has already been so great that any scheme which is likely to be pushed forward quickly, has on that ground much to commend it.

The objections, however, to enlarging the present gaol, to some of which Mr. Brown calls attention, seem on full consideration to be insuperable. The two evils which it is wished to remedy, viz.: overcrowding and association, would, under it, still continue. For the crowding of prisoners in the building would be substituted crowding of buildings on the site; out buildings of low elevation, which do not seriously impede the circulation of air, would be pulled down, and the area thus cleared, while a still larger space, would be filled by a large three-storied block, skirting out all light and air and absorbing the space used for exercising yards, work-shops and other essentials—the prison thus made consisting of a number of large blocks separated by alley ways from 20 to 25 feet wide. A large number of the prisoners would still be kept in associated wards, and as it is considered that separation would be especially effective in the case of Chinese, an arrangement which, after considerable expenditure would still fall in great measure to secure this object, cannot be considered satisfactory.

I have accordingly come to the conclusion that the whole or part of a new prison must be built upon a fresh site, and I consider that the second plan suggested by Mr. Brown should be built, providing separate accommodation for (say) 200 or 250 prisoners, avowedly only as an instalment of a complete new prison. The same course you will remember was followed in Mauritius, and a reference to my despatch No. 91 of the 9th of June, 1887, will show that three years ago I urged that "as soon as ever funds are available a wing of the new prison should be constructed." If the building is thus gradually completed there ought to be no necessity for having recourse to a loan.

The site of the present prison is, I understand, beyond question the proper position for the Police Station and the Magistrate's Courts and in connection with them it is necessary to have a certain amount of prison accommodation for prisoners under remand, awaiting trial, &c. Eventually permanent provision might also be made on this site for short sentenced prisoners and debtors (if imprisonment for debt be continued), and except for the latter the separate system should be adopted throughout, converting the present building into a house of detention, containing a certain number of wards for debtors and cells for 150 prisoners—say, accommodation for 250 in all. The radiating blocks in the rear and the out-buildings in the front might be cleared away, and if funds are available, the Courts and Police Station might be improved.

The prison on the new site when complete might contain cells for from 400 to 450 prisoners, together with governor's quarters, offices, accommodation for the staff, &c.

The disadvantage of duplicating the staff seems not to be so serious as has been suggested. Wherever the extra accommodation is provided, additional warders must be employed, and the old prison in its new application could well be placed in charge of an assistant superintendent or chief warder.

As regards the number of prisoners to be provided for I have already dealt with the subject of the recommendations in my despatch No. 253 of the 4th instant. The number of debtors sent to prison in 1889 was 85, and I would again suggest that imprisonment for debt should be abolished in Hongkong. No reason has been given why it should be retained in this Colony in particular, and I cannot but hope that, on reconsideration your Council may agree in the advisability of its abolition. The introduction of the separate system may be expected, as you have observed, eventually to further diminish the number of prisoners, and I do not therefore contemplate the necessity of providing for more than 450 separate cells in the new gaol, of which not more than 250 would be built in the first instance.

In accordance with Mr. Brown's request in his Despatch of the 10th of November last, I have been obtaining from the Inspector of Convict Prisons and is herewith enclosed; and I have asked the Governor of the Straits Settlements to have a copy of the plans of the Singapore criminal prison made and sent to Hongkong.

I will only add, in conclusion, that I rely on you to press this matter forward without delay. I have sufficiently commented in former despatches on the manner in which it has been shelved from time to time, and I earnestly trust that the suggestions now made will be recognised as reasonable and will meet with no further opposition in the colony than has hitherto been shown. Your most obedient humble servant.

K. MURDOCH.

CRUICKSHANK & CO. LIMITED.

The third annual meeting of the shareholders in the above Company was held at the Hongkong Hotel on the 10th inst. Mr. J. Stephen (General Manager) presided, and amongst those present were Messrs. G. Fenwick, F. A. Bain, &c.

The Chairman expressed regret at the report not being more favorable, attributing it to the general depression that existed last year.

Mr. Fenwick proposed, and Mr. Bain seconded, the adoption of the report, which was agreed to, and Mr. F. Henderson having been re-elected auditor, the proceedings terminated.

H. G. BROWN AND COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to shareholders at the second annual general meeting to be held at the Hongkong Hotel on Saturday, the 18th April, at noon:—

The General Managers new began to submit their report on the working of the Company's business, together with a statement of accounts for the year 1890.

recommend (this should be appropriated as follows:—  
To dividend of \$5 per share, say 10 per cent. \$30,000.00  
remuneration to Consulting Committee and General Managers as per articles of association 4,186.04  
depreciation on ships and stocks 3,600.00  
write 10 per cent. off goodwill 4,600.00  
carry forward to next account 1,472.50  
\$43,758.54

PROPERTIES.

All the Company's properties are in good order and have been well maintained during the year. It will be seen from the accounts now submitted that some additions have been made to the Company's fleet of sailing vessels during the past year, and that a steam launch also has been purchased, all of which have been considered necessary to provide for the increasing work to be done.

The China markets for timber, as for many other articles of commerce, have proved very disappointing during the past year, but it is to be expected that some improvement will soon be shown, and that the Company's business will participate in same. On the other hand the Company has been kept very fully occupied in Manila, and contracts are now on hand which will provide full work for some time to come, and the prospects for the current year seem very favorable indeed.

MANAGER.

In accordance with the terms of his agreement Mr. Brown has retired from the management in the Philippines, and the business of the Company is now being conducted by Mr. J. Anderson, a gentleman who for a number of years past has been associated with Mr. Brown in the business, and the General Managers and Consulting Committee are well satisfied that in his hands the work will be well and efficiently done.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

Messrs. Dalrymple, Sassoon and Layton retire in accordance with the Articles of Association, but being eligible offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITOR.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. Fullerton Henderson, who offers himself for re-election.

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO., General Managers.

Hongkong, 10th April, 1891.

MACAO.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Macao, 13th April, 1891.

His Excellency the Governor of this hapless colony is making a spirited attempt to prevent the entire closing of the port. The mud has of late years been sitting up in the harbour to such an extent that the day cannot be very far distant, unless effective measures of prevention are actively taken in hand, when even steamers of the lightest draft will be unable to enter the inner harbour. Senator Borja, himself a practical sailor, has recognised the danger, and as Macao's very existence depends on the maintenance of her shipping relations with Hongkong and Canton, he has done wisely in grappling with a serious difficulty that has been rendered more formidable by the neglect of years. The harbour of Macao needs thorough dredging and the construction of a new and carefully buoyed channel from the Light-house to the wharves inside, and at a meeting of the Executive Council held on Saturday the 4th inst., the preliminary to this reform were inaugurated. Tenders had been invited for a powerful dredger, and out of numerous competitors the decision eventually rested between a Belgian firm and the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Limited. A wise resolution was adopted when it was unanimously decided that the tender of the Dock Company be accepted, to supply for the sum of \$10,000 a powerful dredger, in accordance with plans and specifications, together with two large and basins. The proposal for the new dredger has been passed in Council, and no doubt the money necessary will be voted in due course; but nevertheless it would be a risky business predicting a stated time when we shall see the dredger actively at work. The wheels of practical reform revolve very slowly in the "gem of the Orient's east."

The Government has started to dig out the old dock and to erect work-shops to repair the machinery of steam-launches, etc., just inside the Barra fort. This dock was presented to Government a short time since, when the Sir John Coombe, a son of Chow On, one of the leading Chinese merchants, and the authorities are now clearing it out and constructing a small naval depot for local repairs.

It is satisfactory to note that the work of thoroughly cleaning the town is being energetically proceeded with. After the deadly influenza epidemic of the past winter the Government issued a decree that every road and street should be cleaned, and that every house in the colony must be white-washed every three years. This order caused considerable grumbling at first, but it is being carried out, and doubtless beneficial results to the public health will accrue.

Referring to the epidemic of influenza, the loss of life here was very great. A large number of old Portuguese residents succumbed, and amongst the Chinese the death-rate averaged from thirty to forty daily.

The gunboat *Tylo* left here for Lisbon on Saturday morning. In addition to her proper complement she had on board twenty-eight sick passengers, twenty-two of whom were sent to the hospital, and the rest were "packed like sardines" in the vessel. They will have a very long time in the hot weather the vessel is certain to encounter on her homeward







## SUPREME COURT.

## IN BANKRUPTCY.

(Before Sir James Russell, Chief Justice.)  
April 9th.

## THAT DEBTORS' DUNGEON AGAIN.

U Kwong-nam appeared to show cause why he should be discharged from the Debtors' Prison and be adjudicated a bankrupt. Mr. Gedge (for Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master's office), opposed the application.

U Kwong-nam, the petitioner, said he filed the petition for adjudication and the accounts produced. His total liabilities amounted to \$14,773 and his assets totted up to nil, with the exception of a few articles of clothing.

Mr. Gedge contended that the applicant was not altogether without means of discharging his liabilities. He had, he said, been instructed by his client, the chief creditor, that the debtor had made certain overtures in respect to settlement. The man had wealthy relatives, who could easily pay the amount for him.

His lordship—"Squeeze" the relatives, eh? Mr. Gedge denied that he desired to "squeeze" the money out of the petitioner's relatives.

His lordship—"Just so. That's the danger with this debtors' prison: it is used as an engine to extort money from relatives. Its proper use is for impounding men who, able to pay, desire to leave the colony and take all their effects with them."

Mr. Gedge—He carried on business as a timber merchant here with others as partners. His trustee has left the colony, as he has said, with his money. He further stated, in the course of a summary Court case before Mr. Justice Clarke, that his partner had collected money under a certain deed and appropriated it to his own use.

Debtor—I have been in prison for about three months and have never yet been examined before the Court. I don't know where my "security man" is.

Mr. Gedge—"If his partner, collected \$500 before he was imprisoned. If you will grant an adjournment I will get my client here, and he will be able to testify as to the petitioner's solvency."

His lordship—I don't like to send this man back to gaol. If the Court thinks fit it can give an order for adjudication. There is no use in making such a man a bankrupt. There's nothing to be got out of him. He should be liberated if not guilty of fraud.

His lordship asked the petitioner who drew up and paid for the legal documents and list of creditors. After a good deal of shuffling the petitioner said he wrote to a native friend who put the business through for him.

His lordship, after referring to the Ordinance, said—As he does not seem to be very truthful, and there may be some doubt attached to his evidence, I will send him back to prison for one week. The case is now adjourned for a week. The petitioner, a pitiable looking object, was then removed.

## THE FATALITY AT NORTH BARRACKS.

At the Magistracy on the 10th inst. the inquiry into the circumstances attending the death of Bombardier Ashdown, R.A., was resumed by Mr. Wise, acting Coroner. Part of the following evidence was taken on the 9th.

Surgeon Smyth, of the Medical Staff, said—The deceased was admitted to the Casualty Ward on April 4th about 2 p.m. He was suffering from fracture of the base of the skull. After his death I made an autopsy, and found the skull extensively fractured, there being great effusion of blood between the brain and the skull, causing death.

Sergeant Edwards said—At 10.20 p.m. on April 4th I was in the verandah of B block of the married quarters. After closing my shutters I heard a noise in the quarters of the deceased. High words were being used. I heard the deceased's wife saying "I will speak to the doctor to get me sent home." I heard a man's voice, and distinguished it as the voice of deceased, there being some conversation about his being in the canteen every night and being required to be brought home. Then there was a slight noise, and Mrs. Ashdown said "Oh, you brute."

Immediately after that I saw deceased fall out of the window. I ran down and found in the yard, lying on his back, he was bleeding from a wound on the head. I felt his pulse and called for a light. The deceased was taken to Wellington Barracks. The deceased came out in the Himalayas.

Catherine Ashdown said—On April 4th, at 9.30 p.m. I went to the canteen and brought my husband (the deceased) home. I live in the married quarters. He was not quite sober. I married quarters. He was not quite sober. I spoke to him and told him if he did not leave off drinking I should ask to be sent home. He then jumped through the window. He had been drinking for some time. He had been in the Army fourteen years.

This concluded the evidence. His lordship—I find that the cause of death was a fracture of the base of the skull resulting from a fall from a window in the married quarters in Queen's Road East.

## CRICKET.

## NAVY v. H. K. C. C.

The above match was played on the Cricket ground on the 11th inst., and resulted in a splendid victory to the Club. The Navy went first to the wickets, and only 28 and 44 in 15, with two bowlers, being dismissed without scoring, owing to Lawson's fatal delivery. Their innings closed with a total of 59 runs, half-an-hour before twilight. The scores were as follows—

FIRST INNINGS.		SECOND INNINGS.	
Baker, run out	0	b Barf	0
Adair, C. S. Barf	1	b Barf	0
Plant, C. S. Barf	0	b Barf	0
Taylor, C. S. Barf	0	not out	0
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S. Barf	0		
St. John, C. S.			



# MAIL SUPPLEMENT.

## The Hongkong Telegraph.

No. 2819.

THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 1891.

SIX DOLLARS PER QUARTER

### BIRTH.

At Newchwang, on the 26th March, 1891, the wife of W. MARTINSON, of the I.M. Customs, of a daughter.

### DEATHS.

At Peking, on 18th March, Mr. J. GURRIN. At 12, Nanking Road, Shanghai, on the 10th instant, THOMAS HAROLD VALE, in his 42nd year. On the 26th of March, at Hou Li Likin Office, Kuo-yao Hsien, WILLIAM SILLS, of Her Britannic Majesty's Colonial Service, Singapore.

## The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 1891.

### HOW CRIMINALS ARE MANUFACTURED IN HONGKONG.

The time is 9 a.m. and the scene is laid in the gloomy, evil-smelling pig-sty which does duty for a Police Court in Hongkong. The "pen" is crowded with the customary variety of the heathen Chinese; old and young of both sexes are huddled together waiting to face the music. Enter his Worship, gay, smiling and debonaire, humming a popular melody from the "Contrabandists" and with a choice orchid in his coat. And then the fun begins. It is not very exciting to the onlookers. A couple of newspaper reporters yawn audibly at the table, an inspector of police and a budding solicitor discuss in undertones the merits of a gaming-house case that is on the list, the door-ways are blocked by policemen and idlers of various descriptions, and the back of the room is crowded by Celestials interested in the proceedings. The magistrate loses no time in settling down to work, and the gaming-house case is first called. Two victims are sent into retirement for six months with hard labour, two others getting off with half that sentence, the heavy fines imposed not being forthcoming. These four men presented outwardly a respectable appearance and there was nothing about them to indicate the ordinary stamp of a criminal; and they were made members of that class for an offence which is openly carried out in high places throughout the colony and complacently winked at by the authorities. A number of unfortunates who had set at naught the *Opium Ordinance* were next quickly sent to swell the already over-crowded ranks and to herd indiscriminately with robbers, house-breakers and other hardened gaoibirds. Mendicants and vagrants of various kinds and of both sexes, unlicensed hawkers, several *sampan* girls who had broken the peace by slanging each other, a European sailor who had imbibed distilled damnation not wisely but too well the previous night in Taipingshan, a miserable-looking wretch who was charged with "unlawful possession"—he was arrested with a few pieces of wood picked up in the street, and afterwards committed suicide in gaol by hanging himself with his waist-belt—and several other minor offenders were all carefully "gathered in" by outraged Justice, and his Worship was just preparing to quit the busy scene of his every-day life when a gigantic Sikh policeman strode forward and violently threw—that is the only proper expression we can think of to accurately describe the brutal method adopted—a young Chinese lad of about 18 years of age into the now empty dock. This was a serious offender against public morality, and accordingly the dispenser of Police Court law and justice settled himself back in his chair and grimly smiled, in a fashion that foreboded a bad time for the prisoner. Perhaps his Worship was disappointed and annoyed at being detained just as he was preparing to start for the Club; perhaps he was not but, anyhow, this is what took place. The Chinese youth, an emaciated lad who had evidently been in a state of semi-starvation for weeks, was charged with the grievous crime of ear-ringing, snatching. Hereafter the facts, brought out in evidence: The offence was committed somewhere near the Chinese Recreation Ground; the lad admitted he was very hungry and was trying to appease Nature's cravings with stale vegetables and fruit picked up out of the road-way, when suddenly a Chinese girl came rolling along, conspicuous for a pair of gorgeous ornaments, value about twenty cents, in her pink little ears. The starving wretch never thought of British morality, he had never heard of British immaculate justice, the time was not yet when the Heir to the Throne had grossly outraged the law and become a participant in one of the most disreputable scandals on record—at all events he snatched at the tempting bauble, the young lady squealed, and a black Goliath in the Queen's uniform accomplished the rest. The girl's ear was not injured, the earring was of no actual value, the offence itself was not serious, the extraneous circumstances were all in favor of the prisoner—he was starving and the temptation was irresistible; and he was not a habitual criminal, he had never been in gaol before—but his Worship is an advocate of repressive measures and the lash, and he sentenced this boy, to nine months imprisonment with hard labour, supplemented by two floggings of twenty strokes each with a rattan—and then his Worship gaily picked his teeth and was carried down to the Club where he was "faint, principled" in discussing the "grip" of the town, and went home to tiffin with a splendid appetite. And the lame and blind mendicants, the unorthodox vagrants and nomadic hawkers, the daring ruffians who had been captured red-handed with a few pennyweights of unlicensed opium in their possession, the

gamblers who had been railed in their own houses and who had the bad luck neither to be members of the Hongkong Club nor to have the special privilege of running a barefaced gambling show by the Powers-that-will-not-see, the erring *sampan* girls, the abnormally thirsty seamen, and the man who was unfortunate enough to be found with a few pieces of wood in his possession which belonged to nobody in particular, were each and all relegated to Victoria Gaol, to the select society of convicts, as the latest consignment of specially manufactured Hongkong criminals. The ear-ring snatcher was initiated into the mysteries of British civilisation by being stripped, tied up like a dog, and his flesh cut out in pieces by two stalwart turnkeys, this Christian-like operation necessitating a three weeks' lie-back in the Gaol Hospital to enable him to gain sufficient strength to go forth to hard labour in the shape of the crank, shot-drill, oakum-picking, or carrying big lumps of stone from one end of the yard to the other for the edification of the officers in charge. Europeans are exempted from the crank and from stone carrying, and they are never flogged unless under extraordinary circumstances—there is only one case on record under the existing regulations—so that, notwithstanding many official protestations to the contrary, the European prisoner is a favored mortal, and we think he ought to be, even to a far greater extent than is the case. When this young Chinese is sent forth from prison with the indelible marks of the convict on him, where is he going? What is he going to do? Can there be any reasonable doubt on the subject? We think not. He will go forth to starvation, and he will steal whatever he can lay his hands on to allay the pangs of hunger; he will be again arrested, committed to the Supreme Court as an old offender, sentenced to a term of penal servitude, and all hope of reclamation or reformation will have gone.

Is this wholesale manufacture of criminals justified? Can anything be done to avert it, to lessen an evil that threatens to swamp Hongkong with convicts who might have been useful members of the community but for the Draconian and mistaken severity of our magistrates and judges? In our opinion the present system of so-called prohibitive sentences is a scathing satire on the laudatory professions of civilised government we are so fond of indulging in, and is detrimental to the general interests of this colony. Besides, it is a system that in England is acknowledged to have proved a pronounced failure. To send a man to gaol for debt, gambling, evading the *Opium Ordinance*, for being a mendicant or unlicensed hawker, or for numerous other minor breaches of the letter of the law, is altogether out of harmony with the spirit and character of the age in which we live; whilst the severe sentences passed for acts of petty larceny, the most numerous class of offences with which our judges have to deal, only defeat the end in view. With reference to the last named crime Mr. Recorder Horwood, one of the ablest of English judges, recently said—

"I am of opinion that for petty larcenies, though often repeated, the terms of imprisonment given are cruel and useless; for there is not a trace of evidence of reform in the offender produced by them. I judge each case as it arises, and proportion the sentence to the nature of the offence. I am, too, of opinion that the sentences for embezzlement, false pretences and larceny by servants have been shocking, and calculated to break down for life or add to the criminal class people who great leniency might save and recover to honesty and respectability. I deal with five hundred prisoners more annually, and in two thousand sentences I have none of penal servitude. My average of punishment is two-thirds less than in the time of my predecessor, and I am convinced that the sentences throughout the country might safely be reduced in that ratio. I practiced many years at two Courts of Session, both held in Manchester. One for that borough was held before a Recorder with whom a sentence of penal servitude for a second offence was almost certain. The other Court, having jurisdiction over Salford, the twin borough, and a large portion of the populous places adjoining, was presided over by a paid chairman, a barrister, who gave much such sentences as I do. The over-wise and confidant would predict that, as the population, property, and temptation of the two jurisdictions were similar, the Salford criminals would grow in numbers. Nothing of the kind. The lesson was not lost on me, learned, thirty-five years since my own observation and experience have not failed to teach me. The cry is constant from the dock, 'I have enough, work in vain!' 'Oh, give me something to do!' The man who can listen to such appeals and yet treat such criminals as voluntary agents, as pests to be got rid of, and argue that society has a right to protect itself against pilfering by sentences sufficient for homicide, must be thoughtless or stupid or cruel or Pharisaical or doctrinaire to the extent to unfit him to judge his fellow-men."

And Lord Chief Justice Colvinton is of the same opinion as the Recorder. At the Warwick Assizes a few months ago his lordship, in charging the grand jury, condemned the terrific severity with which persons convicted for the third or fourth time of small pecuniary offences were frequently punished. He said that the result of these severe sentences was that the rod broke in the hands of judges when they came to deal with crimes of enormity, because they could not inflict heavier punishment for these than had been awarded for trumpery offences. "Slowly but surely," he continued, "his lordship's sound and humane views are making their way, and the object of judges should be to see how little punishment can be inflicted consistent with the safety of society." The partial adoption of this system has already tended to a heavy decrease of crime in the country. At the same time, judges must not be squeamish where severity is necessary. There is

a lot of sound wisdom in these remarks which local dispensers of justice would do well to take to heart, and which the Government should not lose sight of.

### THE GOVERNOR'S DESPATCH.

Long long ago the Psalmist counselled succeeding generations to "put no trust in Princes," nor, added the Sage, "in any son of man." Could he, in the infinity of his wondrous wisdom, have had Colonial Governors within the focus of his mind when he conceived so irrefutable a truism? Fifteen months ago we sank our own private pessimistic (?) opinions to some extent after having read Sir G. W. de Vaux's now historic despatch, and, having no desire to pose as a modern and masculine Cassandra, hoped and confided, so far as in us lay, that the aforesaid document was not only based on existing facts but possessed also a full measure of prophetic virtues. So we refrained from searching so closely as it is our wont into the foundations upon which Governor de Vaux had built his golden castle, and the Arabian Nights-like prosperity of Hongkong as it was at that period, and of the unheard-of riches that lay buried in its then-existing industries and chimerical accumulative sources of wealth.

We have a score of times of late pointed out of how fictitious a nature is the boasted prosperity of this most wretched of all the mis-governed British colonies upon which the sun has, according to ultra-lingo notions, been ordered to shine for evermore: the sun shines here at present under a pretty thick cloud which obscures most people to a considerable extent. It, however, remained for the Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD, a banker and a keen man of business, to bring out in the so-called local Legislative Council on the 10th inst., facts which have the stubborn support of figures behind them, to prove the absolute truth of our previous assertions, and to shatter the few remaining ruins of that golden state in which Governor de Vaux pictured Hongkong to be, when that gambling mania of '89 had distended the Colony almost even to the extent of blessed "bustledness" and which is now so fully realized and so keenly felt.

The thing speaks for itself, and it is almost pitiable to recognise upon how rotten a basis the "brilliant despatch" was built—how gassy the facts, and how slippery the figures. It needs no special pleading to show that—anyone who has lived in Hongkong for the last year or two can decide for himself, without our comments, if he will read a few extracts. Carried away by the fictitious prosperity of the period, Sir G. W. de Vaux, in the despatch referred to, practically invited the Home Government to handicap this colony to an unlimited extent. He has admitted it. In the despatch he described our (artificial) prosperity in breathless phrases as from a coup d'œil. Better had he said a coup de solif. Whocan wholly blame Lord Knutsford for doubling our military contribution when he read ten columns of solid "taffy" about our wealth and importance—a screed which would have done credit to the most romantic globe-trotter or the leading humbug in the Company-promoting line! True, his Excellency did try in a dignified way to take it all back at the Council meeting on the 19th ult., by saying that this Colony was "regarded by the outside world as very wealthy," whereas it was in a state of collapse, but he was not honest enough to go further, and say "it was so regarded"—and, consequently, oppressed with this fresh burden of the increased military contribution, through my inaccurate and exaggerated picture of local affairs." The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD did this for him, on the 10th, and his Excellency should thank his kinder stars that he was prevented from hearing so crushing a criticism upon his ability as a painter and gilder as that delivered by Mr. WHITEHEAD, in whom the public have at last found a representative who is not a dumb nonentity. His unofficial colleagues rose to the occasion even—fancy that!—and lived, and moved, and had their being—perhaps because his Excellency wasn't there. And the result was—what? A denial of the truth about the state of local affairs, an official vote that was as discreditable as the bartered vote of a prejudiced jury, a swamping majority of might over right, another nail in the coffin of the present system of local Government!

Aye, that last phrase sums up public opinion (as far as that commodity is worth anything on Hongkong) in a nutshell. We are governed too much and too little. In another column can be read the walls of ill-treated ratepayers, lifting up their Ebenezer against the patch of small potatoes known as the Sanitary Board; we have seen what we have to endure whilst we have a Legislative Council as at present constituted. What Hongkong hankers for is not to be rated as a first-class colony at first-class, gilt-edged, fancy prices; our yearning is for first-class administration that can show sympathetic recognition of our needs, and judiciously guide our aspirations—when we have any. Our course is clear—if only the mob of antagonistic cliques which make up Hongkong "Society" will but combine to follow some sensible leader or leaders. The Legislative Council must be made to "move on." For years and years public opinion has clamoured for popular representation, and it has got to come to that. It is not enough for that aggregation of time-serving toadies known as Justices of the Peace, nor the moss-covered Wilks,

agemonie that passes here as being a Chamber of Commerce, to send even the most able representatives, since they are invariably the under-dog in the fight. Hongkong, if it has to pay its own taxes and support its own standing army, wants to say what and whom it shall pay, and the only commonsense way of attaining that end is by following the admirable example of the Australian colonies by sweeping away the present anomalous body that never does anything but feel the Colonial pulse, say that we want bleeding—and promptly lance us for all we are worth. We shall have a Municipal Council before very long, if we don't imitate Macao by dying of sheer inertia, or the (now) deserted Island of St. Thomas, that his Excellency told us of the other day when the affluents had evaporated; Hongkong wants self-government; she isn't yearning for 1,500 extra troops, and she doesn't care a cent if the Fleet goes permanently away and loses itself, but she does claim the right to run her own drainage system, and to say whether she can afford to pay her public servants little or much, or whether we are to have a parson to preach, or a new roof to our "Joss" houses, without regard to the "respectful" phrasing of any future amendments. We need not go as far as our neighbours did in Shanghai, as Sir RICHARD REYNOLDS confessed recently, and say "we don't care a damn whether the thing is regular or not," but at the same time, we want less "Parliamentary Practice" and more horse-sense displayed; we want to supply our requirements in the cheapest markets, and to be in a position enabling us when necessary to give a week's notice to those expensive nonentities the Crown Agents, or to our other local servants, the now pampered Government Officials. And we also want it to be understood that Hongkong is now quite old enough, and also capable enough, of knowing its own requirements and governing its own expenditure, and that it is by far the best judge as to what should be, and above all, what will be. This idea is already in motion, and is in very capable hands—more will be heard of it anon.

### THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA.

For some weeks past it has been an open secret in local commercial circles that active measures were on foot for the formation of a new bank on a large scale in Hongkong, with branches in the Straits Settlements, the Treaty Ports of China, and Japan, and elsewhere. The accuracy of the reports current has been amply demonstrated, and the National Bank of China, Limited, is now for all practical purposes an established fact. The capital of this rival to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation is one million sterling, and of the first issue of half a million, \$300,000—49,925 ordinary shares of £10 each and 750 founders' shares of £1 each—were offered for subscription in Hongkong, China, and the East; £200,000 being specially reserved for Europe. The subscription list closed on the 7th inst., and we are credibly informed that the applications not only greatly exceeded the anticipations of the Directors, but were far in excess of the number of shares available for allotment.

The object of the National Bank of China is fairly indicated by its name, and as general bankers and finance agents, with its headquarters in this colony and under the guidance of an able chief manager, assisted by an efficient staff, the prospects of securing a fair share of whatever business may be going is undeniable. But this Bank has peculiar advantages over all rivals. It has been founded under the direct auspices of the most influential Chinese in the Empire, and has been guaranteed the support of the Viceroy Li HUNG-CHANG, and other officials of the highest rank. There would, indeed, seem to be very little doubt that the vast volume of Chinese financial business will in future be negotiated through this Bank, and in view of projected railways, and the opening of mines all over the country, in addition to extensive water-work, and reclamation schemes for Canton and other large cities, many of which have already been sanctioned, and are in course of active preparation, operations are likely, in the very near future, to assume almost gigantic proportions. And though we consider that the huge profits realised during the past eighteen months by the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank were mainly fictitious and unreliable, and calculated in many respects to beguile the unwary who were not behind the scenes and did not enjoy the secret confidence of the Supreme Dictator who "bossed" the show as he thought fit without restraint or interference from the Court of Directors, there are, nevertheless, good grounds for believing that the National Bank of China has a paying field of operations ready at hand, and every prospect of a successful career as the leading banking institution in the Far East.

Of course the promoters of the new concern disclaim all rivalry with the great local Bank, but such a disclaimer means absolutely nothing. It is inevitable that with such a powerfully-supported rival in the field the business of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank must be materially affected; to what extent, it is at present impossible even to guess, but there can be no denying that the Court of Directors and the immediate supporters of that somewhat dubiously-constituted *Sanhedrin* have exhibited a feeling of bitterness towards their "opponents" which is somewhat mean and contemptible, at least comprehensible when viewed in

the light of old custom in Hongkong. Honourable rivalry in business, as in most other things, is an unknown quantity here; the dog-in-the-manger policy is all but universally recognised and strictly carried out whenever possible and, therefore, the back-handed abuse so freely bestowed by a rabid mob of interested schemers on the promoters of the National Bank of China is not so very surprising. It is not our province to draw any invidious comparison between the qualities, social status, influence, etc., of the gentlemen forming the respective Boards of the two rival Banks; but if there is anything meaner or more contemptible on the face of the earth than the "Court" of the Hongkong Bank in its administrative capacity, we should like to know where it is to be found. The National Bank of China, it is expected, will start active operations in this colony within three months of the present date. We wish it every prosperity.

### LOCAL AND GENERAL.

H.M.S. *Imperieuse*, Capt. Pitt, left the harbour on the 14th inst. on a trial trip, after undergoing a general overhaul.

Mr. T. H. Vale, of the firm of Evans, Vale & Co., Shanghai, was found dead in bed on the morning of the 10th inst. He had not been well for a day or two. Death was due to syncope.

CAPTAIN H. M. JONES, H. B. M.'s Minister Resident at the Court of Siam, arrived here on the 14th inst. from Bangkok, having come over in search of health, in the *Somdech Phra Nang*.

The south-west monsoon, judging by the reports of vessels entering this port during the past fortnight, is setting in fast and a strong S.W. current is to be met with in the region of Turnabout and the Paracels.

An enterprising company has been formed in Tokyo to take over unoccupied islands in the Pacific. Rajah Francis, Q.C., might do a little business with them if he hasn't found a goldmine in his wilderness in Borneo yet—or has.

The body of a Chinaman was found floating in the harbour on the afternoon of the 13th inst. near Yau-ma-tei by a *lukung*. The deceased had evidently been in the water some considerable time, as his features were beyond recognition. St. Peter alone knows who he was.

The interminable *cause célèbre* known as "the Customs Bankruptcy" was again the subject of a good deal of legal chatter at the Supreme Court on the 13th inst., and resulted in another adjournment, this time to the 1st proximo, to allow time for the filing of properly audited accounts showing the bankruptcy's business record up to the time of his adjudication.

IN Saturday's *Gazette* the Acting Harbour-master notifies that as the Provisions of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1890, will take effect in this Colony from the 1st June next, shipowners should at once take steps to mark their ships as required by the Act before that date, and, whilst vessels are in dock, apply for certificates of approval from the Board of Trade officer.

A CORRESPONDENT wants to know who concocted the Post Office Report for 1890, published in our columns on the 14th inst.—Travers or Sercombe Smith? What "cacophonous chair-bearers" were it? Who translated the French despatches from the *Moniteur* and the *Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs*? and what the Report is intended to convey and what useful purpose it is likely to serve? We give it up.

An American contemporary tells us that "the Chinese Government has engaged a German official named Lieke to establish an extensive brick manufacturing near Hongkong. The object of the Government in starting these works is to prevent the building of frame houses in crowded quarters of cities, centuries of experience with wooden buildings being very disastrous." Another instance of having to go far abroad to get news of home.

H.M.S. *Archer*, Commander J. Fozz, arrived yesterday morning from the west coast of Africa, from which station she has been transferred to the China squadron. She is a twin screw cruiser of the 3rd class, 1,770 tons, 1500 H.P. and carries 36 guns, and was commissioned at Devonport in December 1878. She replaces the *Corvette* on the China Station, and was to have been relieved on her late station by the ill-fated *Serpent*, which foundered off Cape Finisterre whilst on her passage out.

MR. GEO. C. MILN'S Dramatic Company, which left for Shanghai by the English mail steamer early in the morning of the 14th inst., will open for a season at the Lyceum Theatre in the Midland Settlements on or about Saturday. It is contemplated to visit Kobe, Yokohama, and Mr. Miln hopes to arrange to perform before the Mikado in Tokyo. On returning to Hongkong the Company will produce a number of novelties, including "Julius Caesar," "Richelieu," "The Fool's Revenge," etc.

The return of the *Kiangwan*, after a thorough overhaul to the Canton river service, followed by the *debut* of the new river steamer *Tai-ron*, on the same route, has resulted in all freight, Chinese and foreign, being reduced to the life of trade. The Steamboat Co.'s boats now carry Chinese on the lower deck at ten cents per capita, while the night boats carry them to and from Canton for 20 cents each. First-class Chinese passengers are taken for 50 cents instead of a dollar, as heretofore. Added to this Chinese shippers inform us that they can now send cargo by the Steamboat Co.'s vessels at 10 per cent. less freight than formerly, which brings the charge for Chinese cargo down to the *Kiangwan's* and *Tai-ron's* rates. On the Canton-Macao run, too, there has been a heavy reduction made in passengers' fares, the China Merchants' steamer *Kiang Ping* having reduced the charge for Chinese from 50 cents per head to 20 cents; the opposition boat, *White Cloud*, has come down to the same level and is carrying all the cargo and passengers at the latter figure. What a desperate attempt to "run off" the Chinese owned vessels, while the latter, having substantial Chinese backing, are doing what they claim is a rattling business, turning in at least 8 per cent. on capital invested. But when will the foreign passengers get reasonable rates?

The return of the number of visitors to the City Hall Museum for the week ending April 13th, are—Europeans 168, and Chinese 1,091; total 2,259.

Mr. T. Lloyd Williams, the well-known Editor of the *Bangkok Times*, arrived here on the 14th inst. on a short visit. He reports very favorably of general prospects in the "Land of the White Elephant."

The Scottish Oriental Co.'s steamer *Montpelier*, Capt. G. Anderson, which arrived here from Portland, Oregon, on the 8th inst., is, we hear, to resume her old place on the Bangkok line to-lay, her charter by the Canadian-Pacific Company having expired.

Our friend Norman, of *Pall Mall Gazette* fame, is likely to find that it is not all gold that glitters in Siamese concessions. The *Siam Gazette* hears that unless even difficulties are arising which are likely to be even more serious prospects, which he had flattered himself all too soon, would place him in the lap of luxury.

MR. CHARLES PEARSON, second officer of the American ship *Great Admiral*, met with a somewhat serious accident on Sunday last, whilst superintending the weighing of the anchor. Just as it was lifted and being swung "in bight" the chain of the derrick gave way and caught him round the arm, breaking it above the elbow. He is at present in the Civil Hospital.

MR. H. M. BUCHER will perhaps feel a thrill of pleasure that, like the gentleman Gilbert tells us of, "he is an Englishman," when he learns that the shareholders of the Osaka Railway Company, at a special general meeting held recently, decreed that the officials of the Company should raise the money to complete the line. For "line" read "mine," Mr. B.

GOOD news for our local Dock Company. The Siamese Government, says the *Bangkok Times*, is seriously thinking of augmenting its fleet by the purchase of one or two more vessels of the *Raja Kumarn* type. Our contemporary adds that Siam is quietly becoming possessed of a very respectable little navy, and the rising generation are being taught to become smart sailors.

POLITICIANS are the same all the world over, from Tralee to Tokyo. The owners of the *Yiji Shinbun* wanted to turn out the editor the other day, because he wasn't sufficiently enthusiastic in the Liberal cause, but he wouldn't budge, and now he and his "successor," with their rival staff, are issuing opposition *Yiji's*, each claiming to be the only authoritative organ. Mr. Parnell and *United Ireland* are not in it.

MR. E. W. MATTIAND, Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial Hospital, begs to acknowledge, with thanks the following donations to the funds of the hospital—Arnold, Karberg, & Co., \$100; Holliday Wise & Co., \$100; Reiss & Co., \$100; E. D. Sassoon & Co., \$100; Siemssen & Co., \$100; Gilman & Co., \$50; Melchers & Co., \$50; W. G. Humphreys & Co., \$25; E. S. Whessler, \$10; Mak Lai Tong, \$10; Officers, steamer *Pokien*, \$10; J. Gomes, \$10; and V. Caroon, \$5.

THE Hon. E. Trotter, Auditor-General of the Straits Settlements, has been distinguishedly himself in a new direction. A few days ago he invaded the French Consulate, with a couple of native police, and arrested eight natives who, with a crowd of friends, were celebrating the marriage of a peon employed there. At the end and front of their offending was only that they were all reading the *Koran* at the top of their voices, the "prisoners" were discharged, and now Mr. Trotter is wishing he had gone a little slower.

THE schoolmaster hasn't got as far abroad as the humble domicile of Yee On, washerman, or he would never have written to bribe a patron a day or two ago, as follows—

Sir—I have the honor to inform you that as I am much obliged to you for kindness to look out me and give me such work to do and I can't bring you any good chance. Now I have a clock (presumably "a stud") and a muf-fet (presumably "a stud") to present to you, please you will receive it with much oblige.

LAST Saturday afternoon six companies from the 91st Regiment, with a portion of the Sikh Artillery and three guns manned by members of the Volunteer Corps, took part in a sham attack at Deep Water Bay. Col. Chatter commanded the combined forces, Capt. McCallum, having charge of the Volunteers. The latter had a most arduous task before them in placing their guns on a steeply-embanked ridge, but they did it with great expedition, and some marvellously good marksmanship was exhibited. A very amusing demonstration was witnessed in one respect, in the amalgamation with the Volunteer Ambulance Corps of a squad of native students from the Alice Memorial Hospital—the first time that trained Chinese, combatant or otherwise, have marched under the British flag. Dr. Cantlie, (to whom the idea of making the combination is, we believe, due), organised a series of supposititious cases of wounded soldiers, who, between the Volunteer Ambulance Corps and the contingent of students, were soon attended to in a way which even the General had to praise.

RECENT information received about the picking of the new leaf from the various tea districts, says the *Fochoo Echo*, is truly lamentable, in fact it is so bad that one is almost inclined to believe that no new teas can be expected in the market. We know that natives have the undeniable reputation of being capable of spreading false news. But after allowing a hundred per cent. of what we have been informed to be false, there yet remains a very gloomy prospect for the native tea, hence here, and for the growers in the country. Of the former, we understand, that only two hongs out of ten have made some very small advances to those tea-men of good standing, and these under conditions that the costs shall not exceed those ruling last season. This no doubt is a wise step, as it will prevent the usual competition in the "bid," which may be fairly assumed to have been the chief cause why tea was laid down in this market at such high prices every year. It is also further stated that a well-known and wealthy tea hong has refused to take any advances, nor does this hong care to have anything to do with tea at all during the approaching season. This action has disappointed many tea-men, who are now entirely without hope of obtaining any advances. From the country we learn that, owing to the establishment of a low scale of wages, much difficulty has been created in obtaining laborers, and we understand that many of these have left the tea districts in search of other work. In fact the whole business is in an unsatisfactory state that the amount of treasure which has been sent up country does not exceed five hundred thousand dollars (merely a drop in the ocean). That this will curtail to a great extent the gathering of, at least, the first crop, cannot be doubted.







substituted therefor the following "or by advertisement or otherwise."

Mr. Gillies seconded, and the resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr. C. I. Watson proposed the fifth resolution:—

That the capital of the Company be increased to \$250,000 by the creation of 1,500 new shares of \$50 each, such increase to be made up by the conversion into capital of \$20,000 of the Reserve Fund, or the investments thereof, and \$25,000 of the present profits or earnings of the Company.

Mr. C. A. Tomes seconded, and this also being carried unanimously, the meeting terminated.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.]

## THE WATER SUPPLY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."

SIR,—I am directed to forward you for your information the enclosed copy of a letter addressed to the Honorable the Colonial Secretary respecting the present scarcity of the Water Supply, and to request you to insert the following notification in the next issue of your paper.

I have the honour to be, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
FRANCIS A. COOPER,  
Resident Engineer,  
Hongkong, April 14th, 1891.

## GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

It is hereby notified for public information that, in view of the present condition of the Water Supply, on and after Wednesday the 15th inst. the water will be turned on to the city between the hours of 6 and 10 a.m. only, until further notice.

By command,  
W. M. DEANE,  
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Water and Drainage Department  
Resident Engineer's Office,  
Hongkong, April 13th, 1891.

SIR,—I have the honour to report that the rapid fall of water in the Tytara and Pokfulam Reservoirs still continues and I calculate that at the present rate of consumption the water will last for another 12 days.

In view of the present condition of the water supply I recommend for the favourable consideration of His Excellency the Governor that on and after Wednesday next the water will be turned on to the city between the hours of 6 and 10 a.m. only, instead of, as at present, the hours of 6 and 10 a.m. and 6 and 9 p.m., and that the alteration be advertised in the local papers.

I am bound to admit that this is a heavy restriction, but a little water is better than no water at all, and I regret to say that in the absence of heavy rains occurring shortly, the city at the present rate of consumption must very soon be limited to the quantity of water flowing down the streams.

I have the honour to be, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
FRANCIS A. COOPER,  
Resident Engineer.

The Hon. The Colonial Secretary.

## NORTH CHINA INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the fourteenth ordinary general meeting of shareholders to be held at the office of the Company, Shanghai, on Monday next, 18th April, 1891:

The Directors beg to submit to the shareholders the annexed duly audited statement of the Company's accounts to 31st December 1890. 1890.—No further profit has accrued in respect of this year, the accounts of which have now been closed by the transfer of Tael 17,746.29 to Liability Account, in accordance with the resolution passed at the last meeting.

The sum of Tael 247,906.25 has been divided, as the result of the year's working, as follows:  
Dividend of 10 per cent. upon:  
the paid-up capital, Tael 115,395.43  
Bonus of 15 per cent. on share:  
holders' contributions, Tael 135,561.19  
1890.—The position of this account has not improved since the previous meeting of shareholders, the losses of the first half-year having been followed by further severe casualties.

The balance of the Working Account on 31st December amounted to Tael 667,417.23, but since that date losses and claims to the extent of Tael 381,051.58 have been incurred, and as there is a large amount of unexpired risk outstanding, the Directors regret to have to recommend that the declaration of dividends be deferred for consideration until the ordinary general meeting in October.

As provided by the regulations of the Company, the Directors will retire at the close of the meeting, but, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. Augustus White and Mr. Andrew Burman, who also retire and again offer their services to the shareholders.

By order of the Court of Directors,  
ALEX. ROSS,  
Secretary.

Shanghai, 9th April 1891.

## FORMOSA.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Tamsui, 24th April, 1891.

On the 28th ult., the Foreign residents of Hobe were invited by the Rev. Dr. Mackay to witness a very interesting function—a native wedding. The contracting parties being a young man of the name of Pao-chang (savage of the plains). The ceremony took place in the native chapel, and was attended by many natives and a few of the foreign community. As a prelude to the ceremony, short addresses were delivered by the Rev. Doctor's numerous staff of preachers and students, and the writer was assured by a resident acquainted with the local dialect, that many of the lecturers showed a thorough knowledge of the subjects treated, reflecting much credit on their teacher, Dr. Mackay. At the conclusion of the addresses, the wedding party having taken up their positions in front of the pulpit, Dr. Mackay read the marriage service. The bridegroom showed the knowledge of his responsibilities by the difficulty he found in uttering the responses, and the bride was most becomingly bashful, and completely lost her voice. The knot being tied, the bride party, and the foreign and native guests, adjourned to the vestry, where the bride handed round tea and cake. If the fact of securing the first sweet from the cake bears any significance, a well-known member of our community will very likely have something to store for him.

An unfortunate accident occurred in the engine room of the *Halleong* on her last trip from Amoy to this port, by which the 2nd engineer, Mr. Stoppel, had both feet badly scalded. He is, however, progressing favourably.

The F. T. Co's steamship *Smith* is in Hongkong qualifying for a passenger certificate. It will require something like \$7000 to render her

efficient. The *Carr* is likely to be placed temporarily on the Amoy run when the returns from her port.

The tea-pickers are beginning to come over, so there will be some little opposition between the steamers conveying them.—*Mercury*.

## MOURDEN.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

March 26th.

At last there is some hope of our Manchurian railway becoming a reality. Towards the end of last year it was reported that the project had been indefinitely postponed, owing to the large demands for relief in the flooded districts of Chihli having emptied the Imperial Treasury. Others thought that the proposal to build the line had been made simply as a counter blast to Russia in Siberia, and that the Government never seriously meant to carry it into effect. Now, however, I learn from a thoroughly reliable source that work may be started any time. Some time ago additional surveys in the Shingching Province were made by one of the engineers. The route has not yet been finally decided upon. There are two alternatives. It may run either from Shan Hai Kuan due east to the port of Newchwang, thence north-east via Liao-yang and Moukden, or after leaving Shan Hai Kuan, proceed in a north-easterly direction, following the Imperial road, via Chinchow, Kuangning, Hsin-min-tun, and Moukden, with a junction near the latter place for the Newchwang and Moukden branch. The latter route will probably be chosen, not only because it is shorter, but also because it traverses a rich and populous country; and at Hsin-min-tun it would be fed by an enormous trade from the great north-west. In any case it must keep to the west of Moukden, lest the *Yang chui* of the Imperial and other tombs be injured. So anxious were the authorities on this score that on the maps originally supplied to the Foreign engineers the Imperial tombs were intentionally placed west of the city instead of east.

Manchuria has suddenly risen into prominence. Its coal mines are now attracting the attention of a syndicate of foreign and native gentry. The other day I was told that a short time previous to the death of the Seventh Prince, that liberal minded statesman obtained an Imperial Decree sanctioning important mining operations in Manchuria, especially bore for petroleum in four different centres, namely southern Chinchow, Fochow, Liao-yang, and east of Moukden. Meantime it is premature to mention names, but to-day I translated two important letters from Foreign representatives of the syndicate to a high official at present staying here. Foreign engineers are expected soon with boring and testing implements.

Manchuria is full of wealth, and China will not part with it to Russia without a severe struggle; but she is altogether unprepared for it now. With the exception of Hunchun the whole north-east is quite unprotected.

Curious experiences sometimes fall to medical men in China. To-day a foreign doctor here was invited to examine the foot of a native young lady of eighteen, hidden behind curtains. Only the foot was visible. Being near her marriage day it was not proper for her to be seen by men, especially strangers.

Sometimes ago I heard of a similar case where an extremely shy young lady with a bad cough pushed out a hand from between two curtains for the foreign doctor to examine her pulse.—*Mercury*.

## TIENTSIN.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

April 4th, 1891.

I see by your morning contemporary that Gen. T. Schnell has contradicted what appeared in my former letter that appeared in the *Mercury* about the bursting of two Krupp guns. In his letter to the *N.C. Daily News* of the 30th ultimo he styles himself Chief Instructor of Artillery for the Northern Defence; what that may mean I cannot say. However, that is nothing to do with the point in question. Gen. Schnell states "that the whole damage amounted to some mere scratches and chips in the rifling." The accident I referred to was reported to me by those who ought to know, and since I read Gen. Schnell's letter in the *N.C. Daily News* I have made further enquiries, and I send the report, in Chinese, from his Ex. Teh Fung-dong of Port Arthur to his Ex. Li Hung-chang, the Viceroy, relating to the bursting of two Krupp guns on the 28th October, 1890, the rough translation of which is as follows:

"Tooling for Artillery and Infantry at Salikun. An Expectant Tael Teh reports that this year about the middle of the 9th moon, while in discharge of his duties at Paksan forts, and during the time of the practice of cannons, 24 c.m., the cannons known as No. 16 and No. 19, a new kind of Krupp's steel cannons, at the time of firing burst (or exploded) and twisted the rifled grooves. I think, and my opinion is, that the loading of the cannon was not properly done, or else the brass cap was not screwed tight enough, or it may be that the charge was not properly placed, or the brass bands round the cartridge (shell) was not so well made as the 'Ladog'."

It may be that the cotton on the cartridge was not tight enough, or the brass castings on the cartridge had sand-holes in them, and therefore exploded in the grove. Now-a-days there are a great many kinds of fuses and many ways of fixing them, and the slightest error will cause mishaps. I therefore report this to your Excellency. (Li Hung-chang) for your consideration.

By this it will be clearly seen that some accident did take place. I am also glad that the guns supplied by Messrs. Schneider & Co. from the Creusot Works, in France, did excellent work with the same powder used by the Krupp guns, and that no accidents have occurred to them. As I have nothing whatever to do with guns, it does not matter to me which are the best. I only send you items that I think will prove interesting to your readers. I would just as soon the Chinese Government bought their guns from Krupp as from France, or from England.

His Excellency Li, Chief Director of the Shanghai Gold Mines, is in Peking, and Mr. Ma Kien-chang is still at Ning-hai-chu, waiting there to hear the result from his Excellency Li in Peking.

The Dutch flag, which for years has been displayed at the flagstaff of Messrs. E. Meyer & Co., has been hoisted at the flagstaff of Messrs. H. Mandl & Co.

By the *Halleong*, Mr. Ed. Heidemann, of Berlin, is homeward bound. He arrived here on December 8th, 1890, and established the firm of Messrs. A. Heidemann & Co., Berlin, Bremen, and London, as the Deutsch-Chinesische Handels-gesellschaft (German-Chinese Mercantile Company). I am sorry to say that Mr. Heidemann's health is not very good, and that is why he is bound home. He will be missed here, and his friends wish him a *bon voyage*, and speedy return.

The Keping Mining Company is doing very well, the demand being larger than the supply. The Adjutants are gaining ground slowly, but nevertheless successfully here, as well as at Peking and Kirin; in the manufacturing of steel-bronze guns and smokeless powder.

The extension of the Keping Mining Co. to Lih-tai has cost the company an extra Tiao 300,000, so that now the Company has an invested capital of about Tiao 2,500,000, in its mining operations at Keping.—*Mercury*.

## For Sale.

IMPORTANT INTIMATION.

## NOW READY.



(PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY.)

THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST, A DIRECTORY AND WORK OF REFERENCE, ON ALL IMPORTANT LOCAL SUBJECTS FOR HONGKONG, MACAO, CHINA, JAPAN, THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, SIAM, INDU-CHINA, NORTH BORNEO, THE PHILIPPINES, AND COREA, FOR THE YEAR 1891.

PRICE THREE DOLLARS.

THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY has again been enlarged and is THE CHEAPEST, MOST COMPLETE, AND ONLY RELIABLE WORK OF THE KIND PUBLISHED IN THE FAR EAST.

THE above named work, published at the Office of "THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH," contains a Directory for the Ports in the large portion of Asia comprised between Peking, in the Straits Settlements, and the Northern Chinese Ports, including Vladivostok, Formosa, the Twenty Ports of China and Japan, Japan, the Philippines Islands, Corea, British North Borneo, the British Colony of Hongkong, and the Portuguese Colony of Macao. It also contains the Principal Treaties between European countries and the United States and the countries East of the Straits, including the Treaties and Conventions between China and Great Britain, France, Germany, Russia, the United States of America, Brazil, Japan, Peru, Spain, and Portugal; together with conditions of Trade, and the Port Customs, Consular, and Harbour Regulations for the Ports of China and Japan; also descriptions of the various Ports, with the latest Trade Statistics taken from the Reports of the Imperial Maritime Customs and other reliable sources.

The various Governments and Municipal Corporations, and all Public Bodies and Companies, Bankers, Merchants, Consuls, Professional men, and other Residents, have supplied the necessary matter, upon forms specially sent for that purpose so as to ensure accuracy. The Naval and Military portions have been taken from the latest published official lists and revised at Headquarters; in fact, no pains have been spared to make "THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST" a handy and perfectly reliable book of reference for all classes.

In addition to the information enumerated above "THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST" for 1891 contains a carefully revised

INDEX TO THE ORDINANCES OF HONGKONG.

A SPECIAL LIST OF FOREIGNERS employed in Steamers making short voyages from Hongkong.

THE PRIVATE RESIDENCES of the Principal Government Officials, the Leading Merchants, the Foreign Consuls, Professional Men, Justices of the Peace, &c.

A LADIES DIRECTORY FOR HONGKONG; The latest and only reliable PLAN OF THE CITY OF VICTORIA, showing the proposed Reclamations and all recent additions and improvements.

A mass of interesting information on various subjects, culled from the most trustworthy sources.

A SPECIAL FEATURE. IN THIS PUBLICATION WILL BE A CHAPTER ON SPORT, (amended and corrected to date) dealing with almost every branch of the subject, including RACING, CRICKET, ATHLETICS, AQUATICS, &c., &c., &c.

THE WINNERS OF ALL IMPORTANT RACES IN HONGKONG, SHANGHAI, FOCHOW, AMOY, with times, and other interesting particulars, carefully compiled from the most reliable sources, make "THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST" a valuable medium for all classes of sportsmen.

"THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST" for 1891 is Printed on a superior quality of Paper, and is the best printed and most handsomely bound volume ever published East of the Suez Canal.

"THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST," in which it may be circulated extensively outside this Colony, is published at a POPULAR PRICE, and can be ordered at this Office, or through any of our Agents at the various Ports.

THREE DOLLARS.

There is not space in the compass of an Ordinary Advertisement to detail all the information introduced into the work, but it may be fairly asserted that no such Directory has ever been published either in Hongkong or any other part of the East, at such a low price.

"THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST" offers Special Advantages as an Advertising Medium. It has an extensive circulation in all Ports between Singapore and Newchwang, in the Australian Colonies, the United States, and the United Kingdom, and the sale of charges has been fixed at an exceptionally low rate. Terms can be learned on application.

Suggestions for the improvement of this work are respectfully solicited.

Orders for COPIES, and for ADVERTISEMENTS may be sent to the Agents at the various Ports, or to the Office of

"THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH," PEDDIE'S HILL, HONGKONG.

Hongkong, 14th January 1891.

## For Sale.

## INTIMATION.

J. Blackhead & Co. SHIP-CHANDLERS, SAIL-MAKERS, AND

PROVISION MERCHANTS, NAVY CONTRACTORS, AND

GENERAL COMMISSION AGENTS No. 11, Praya Central, (Opposite Peddie's Wharf).

SOLE AGENTS for RAHTJEN'S GENUINE COMPOSITION

FOR THE BOTTOMS OF IRON SHIPS.

HARTMANN'S GREY PAINT, specially manufactured for coating the inside of STEEL SHIPS.

SPECIALY SELECTED, EX. PRIME, PORK AND BEEF in Barrels.

Also AMERICAN PRIME SUGAR-CURED HAMS AND BACON.

CHR. MOTZ & Co., BORDEAUX CLARETS.

CEMENT from the celebrated Factory of Henmoor.

FLENSBURG STOCK BEER, ENGINEERS' AND BLACKSMITHS' MACHINERY AND TOOLS.

EVERY KIND OF SHIPS STORES AND REQUISITES ALWAYS IN STOCK

AT REASONABLE PRICES.

ALL KINDS OF COALS

SUPPLIED AT THE SHORTEST NOTICE.

Hongkong, 25th March 1891.

JUST ARRIVED, FOR SALE.

THE New Stem Winter and Enamelled Dial WATERBURY WATCH.

SERIES I.—For Gentlemen, or large size. SERIES L.—For Ladies, or small size.

Wind in less than a dozen turns. \$4.75 Jewelled, Dust-proof, Keyless, with each. All the latest improvements. A perfect and unrivalled timekeeper; reliable, durable and accurate, and also

SERIES E.—The "Good old favorite." The best form of the original Waterbury; offered at the reduced price of \$3.75 each.

Orders for Outports to be accompanied by remittance for cost.

THE MITSUBI BISSAN KAISHA: Sole Agents in Japan, China, Corea, Hongkong & Macao.

No. 10, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, Hongkong, 20th February, 1891.

CHS. J. GAUPP & CO. CHRONOMETER, WATCH, AND CLOCK-MAKERS, JEWELLERS, SILVER-SMITHS, AND OPTICIANS.

CHARTS AND BOOKS. NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS.

Sole Agents for London, Antwerp, Watches; awarded the highest Prize at every Exhibition; and for Votelandt and Sohn's CELEBRATED OPERA GLASSES, MARINE GLASSES, and SPYGLASSES, No. 2, Queen's Road Central, 1891.

CARBOLEUM AVENARUS, (REGISTERED).

AN ANTISEPTIC PAINT for the Preservation of Wood, Walls, Ropes and Ship's Tackle. May be applied to Beams, Floors, Wainscoting, Wooden Ornament, Eaves, Roofs, Wooden Sheds, Barns, and Gardens' Implements, Carts, Posts, Fences, Stables, Gates, Bridges, Boats, and all Timber underground.

Effectually excludes all dampness from walls painted with it and entirely prevents the crumbling away and decay of both stone and bricks. White ants do not touch wood painted with Carboleum Avénarus.

Used during the last 14 years with the utmost success, as proved by numerous Testimonials from living authorities.

Sold in casks of about 450 lbs. net. Price 5 cents per lb.

For further particulars, apply to SCHEELE & Co., Sole Agents, No. 16, Stanley Street, Hongkong, 2nd December, 1890.

FOR SALE.

THE Schooner "MONTARA," Length 75 feet.

Beam 18 "Registered tonnage 75 tons." (Owing to recent alterations, the carrying capacity of the *Montara* has been increased to about 120 tons, dead weight.)

The *Montara* was built in Singapore, and is most solidly constructed of teak throughout, with iron-wood frames. She has recently been thoroughly overhauled under experienced European supervision, fastened throughout with 7 inch galvanized spikes, and newly re-coppered. She is furnished with the best canvas sails. Draft of water 7 feet.

For further particulars apply to FRASER-SMITH, 6, Peddie's Hill, Hongkong, 9th April, 1891.

FOR SALE.

THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY, Published at the Office of the *Hongkong Telegraph*, is the best and most complete work of the kind ever published in the Far East. The Directory contains the latest and most reliable information concerning China, Japan, and all the other countries in the East.

PRICE, £1.12.10. To be obtained from all Booksellers in China and Japan, and from HARTMAN & CO., Hongkong, 2nd March, 1891.

## Mails.

POSTPONEMENT.

STEAM FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, ADEN, ISMAILIA, PORT SAID, MALTA, GIBRALTAR, MARSEILLES, TRIESTE, DISNEY, TRIESTE, VENICE, PLYMOUTH, AND LONDON.

ALSO, ROMBAY, MADRAS, CALCUTTA AND AUSTRALIA.

N.B.—CARGO CAN BE TAKEN ON THROUGH BILLS OF LADING FOR BATAVIA, PERSIAN GULF PORTS, MARSEILLES, TRIESTE, HAMBURG, NEW YORK AND BOSTON.

SPECIAL ONLY LANDED AT PLYMOUTH: THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S Steamship "MALWA," Captain C. F. Preston, R.N.R., will be despatched from the SUEZ CANAL on THURSDAY, the 16th April, at 5 p.m., connecting with the *Peninsular* at that port, which vessel takes on her cargo for LONDON, via SUEZ CANAL, leaving BOMBAY on the 9th May.

Cargo will be received on board until 4 P.M. Freight and Special (Gold) at the Office until 4 P.M., on the day before sailing.

Ships and Valuable for Europe will be transhipped at Colombo; Tea and General Cargo for London will be conveyed via Bombay.

For further particulars regarding FREIGHT and PASSENGER apply to the PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S Office, Hongkong.

The Contents and Value of Packages are required to be declared prior to shipment.

Shippers are particularly requested to note the terms and conditions of the Company's Black Bill of Lading.

This Steamer takes Cargo and Passengers for Marseilles.

E. L. WOODIN, Superintendent.

P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Office, Hongkong, 15th April, 1891.

U. S. MAIL LINE.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

THROUGH TO NEW YORK, VIA OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND TOUCHING AT YOKOHAMA, AND SAN FRANCISCO.

THE U.S. Mail Steamship "CITY OF PEKING" will be despatched for SAN FRANCISCO, via YOKOHAMA and HONOLULU, on SATURDAY, the 21st inst., at 1 P.M., taking Passengers and Freight for Japan, the United States, and Europe.

Through Bills of Lading, issued for transportation to Yokohama and other Japan Ports to San Francisco, to Atlantic and Indian Cities of the United States, via Overland Railways, to Havre, Trinidad and Demerara, and to ports in Mexico, Central and South America, by the Company's and connecting Steamers.

Through Passage Tickets granted to England, France, and Germany by all trans-Atlantic lines of Steamers.

First-class Fares granted as follows:—To San Francisco, return, \$225.00. To San Francisco, and return, 393.75. To Liverpool, 325.00. To London, 332.00.

To other European Ports at proportionate rates. Special reduced rates granted to Officers of the Army, Navy, Civil Service, and the Imperial Chinese Customs, to be obtained on application.

Passengers by this line have the option of proceeding Overland by the Southern Pacific and Connecting Lines, Central Pacific, Northern Pacific or Canadian Pacific Railways.

Passengers, who have paid full fare, re-embarking at San Francisco for China or Japan (or vice versa) within one year will be allowed a discount of 10 per cent. from Return Fare. This allowance does not apply to through fares from China and Japan to Europe.

Freight will be received on board until 4 P.M. the day previous to sailing. Parcel Packages will be received at the Office until 5 P.M. same day; all Parcel Packages should be marked to address in full; value of same is required.

Codred letters to accompany Cargo destined to Ports beyond San Francisco, in the United States, should be sent to the Company's Office in San Francisco, addressed to the Collector of Customs at San Francisco.

For further information as to Passage and Freight, apply to the Agency of the Company, No. 10, Queen's Road Central.

J. S. VAN BUREN, Acting Agent.

APRIL 11th and 12th, 1891.

OCCIDENTAL AND ORIENTAL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

TAKING CARGO AND PASSENGERS TO JAPAN, THE UNITED STATES, MEXICO, CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA, AND EUROPE.

THE OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND ATLANTIC AND OTHER CONNECTING STEAMERS.

THE Steamship "OCEANIC" will be despatched for San Francisco, via Yokohama, on THURSDAY, the 7th May.

A Connection will be made at Yokohama with Steamers from Shanghai and Japan Ports.

ALL PASSENGER PACKAGES should be marked to address in full, and same will be received at the Company's Office until FIVE P.M. the day previous to sailing.

First-class Fares granted as follows:—To San Francisco, return, \$225.00. To San Francisco, and return, 393.75. To Liverpool, 325.00. To London, 332.00.

To other European Ports at proportionate rates. (Special reduced rates granted to Officers of the Army, Navy, Civil Service, and the Imperial Chinese Customs, to be obtained on application.)

Passengers by this line have the option of proceeding Overland by the Southern Pacific and Connecting Lines, Central Pacific, Northern Pacific or Canadian Pacific Railways.

Passengers, who have paid full fare, re-embarking at San Francisco for China or Japan (or vice versa) within one year will be allowed a discount of 10 per cent. This allowance does not apply to through fares from China and Japan to Europe.



